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Japan

Kono Welcomes Clinton Remarks on Uruguay Round

OW1204050193 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 12 Apr 93

[From the NHK News]

[Text] At a news conference held this morning, Chief Cabinet Secretary Kono explained that the Japanese Government welcomed U.S. President Clinton's plan to reach an agreement on the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations by the end of this year, and his asking the Congress to extend the deliberation period on the agreement's details.

In the news conference, Chief Cabinet Secretary Kono said: There were no prospects for concluding the Uruguay Round because the United States had not made a decision; however, we now have a goal for our negotiations, thanks to the White House's request to Congress to extend the deliberation period on the agreement, and to the White House's desire to conclude the Uruguay Round by the end of this year. We welcome this.

He then explained Japan's intention to also exert efforts for an early conclusion of the Uruguay Round of negotiations as a host nation of the Tokyo summit.

Tokyo Welcomes Clinton's 'Fast-Track' Move

OW1204052493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0441 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 12 KYODO—Japan on Monday welcomed reports that U.S. President Bill Clinton decided to extend his "fast-track" authority to speed up the stalled Uruguay Round of trade talks. According to a White House spokesman, Clinton has asked Congress to give its approval to a 10-month extension of the presidential power.

The fast-tack procedures expired in March and Clinton wants U.S. negotiators to have until December 15 the authority allowing them to complete a trade deal that cannot be amended by Congress.

Yohei Kono, who as chief cabinet secretary is the Japanese Government's most senior spokesman, said that Tokyo fundamentally welcomes Clinton's decision. "We can (now) set a negotiation target as far as timing is concerned," said Kono.

More than 100 nations launched the Uruguay Round in 1986 in an effort to revamp the global trade system. Negotiations have stalled for more than two years, mainly because of disputes over farm trade between the United States and the European Community (EC).

Japan has also been under an increasing pressure from the U.S. and the EC to end its virtual ban on rice imports as part of an overall Uruguay Round deal.

Miyazawa 'Negative' on Market-Share Targets

OW1204121593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1205 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 12 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Monday he plans to discuss a new framework for addressing bilateral trade issues when he meets with U.S. President Bill Clinton for their first summit talks Friday, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Miyazawa was negative, however, on U.S. proposals to redress Japan's mounting trade surplus by establishing market-share targets for foreign products, the official said.

In an interview with U.S. reporters, Miyazawa praised the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) talks as constructive, but said his visit will provide a good opportunity to discuss entering such trade negotiations from a new angle, the official said.

Miyazawa was quoted as saying that in general, Japan maintains an open market, and the government cannot use its influence to guide the private sector.

He said that while he was pleased Japan had met a bilaterally agreed 20 percent target for foreign share of its semiconductor market in the last quarter of 1992, the achievement was in part the result of arbitrary factors, the official said. Miyazawa stressed that Japan had not committed itself to the 20 percent mark. U.S. trade negotiators are seeking to increase the market-share target to over 20 percent.

On the government's stimulus package to be announced prior to his April 15-17 trip to the U.S., Miyazawa said he does not expect the package to have an immediate impact on reducing Japan's trade surplus with the U.S., but that it should yield results over time.

Between 1987 and 1992, U.S. exports to Japan increased by nearly 70 percent, while Japan's exports to the U.S. increased by some 14 percent, Miyazawa said.

He said he expected the trend to continue if stimulus plans lead to an economic recovery. During the visit, Miyazawa is expected to pledge a new 12 trillion yen pump-priming package aimed at boosting the sagging economy, to be adopted Tuesday.

Japan's trade surplus with the U.S. in 1992 grew 14.3 percent over the previous year to reach 44 billion dollars, according to Finance Ministry statistics.

Despite economic frictions, the premier said that, for Japan, the security pact with the U.S. remains a key pillar of relations.

On economic assistance to Russia, Miyazawa said that while Japan may not rank as No. 2 donor among major industrialized nations, it would do its best to cooperate in supporting reforms. Japan would consider meeting possible requests for additional aid if they are reasonable, he said.

Tokyo has said that it will only offer substantial bilateral assistance if its longstanding dispute over four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido is resolved.

A government report unveiled last week showed Japan ranked fifth among the seven major industrialized nations in regard to financial pledges of support for Russia.

On the issue of North Korea, Miyazawa said the international community should allow the communist country time to reconsider last month's decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and not rely on penalties.

Nagoya Business Delegation Leaves for Washington

OW0904050993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0317 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Nagoya, April 9 KYODO—A group of Nagoya business leaders left Friday for Washington to exchange views with policymakers on Japan-U.S. economic relations.

The delegation sent by the Chubu Economic Federation of Nagoya will spend nine days in the United States. The mission is chaired by Kamesaburo Matsunaga, chairman of Chubu Electric Power Co.

The 17 members will have talks with Secretary of Commerce Ronald H. Brown, Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and Senator John D. Rockefeller on bilateral trade relations under President Bill Clinton's new administration, federation officials said.

Muto: Russia Needs Help Toward Market Economy

OW1104122193

[Editorial report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 11 April 1993 carries a live 60-minute panel discussion. Present at the panel discussion are Foreign Minister Kabun Muto; Shigeki Hokamata, professor at Aoyama University; Glen Fukushima, chief of the Japan AT&T General Policy Headquarters; and Akihiko Tanaka, assistant professor at Tokyo University. The discussion is moderated by NHK commentator Yasuhiro Koshina.

The discussion begins with the Cambodian situation. Asked by Koshina to comment on the Cambodian situation, Muto says that "Japan, hoping for peaceful elections in Cambodia, will advocate the need for such elections in the United Nations." He added it is necessary to make efforts to use China to help persuade the Pol Pot faction. Discussing the dispatch of Self-Defense Force personnel to Mozambique, Muto says: "If and when the situation there is fit for their dispatch, I intend to ask Self-Defense Force personnel to participate in UN peacekeeping operations in Mozambique in accordance with the PKO Cooperation Law."

Turning the subject to the issue of aid to Russia, Koshina asks Muto how he will deal with the issue at the foreign and finance ministerial talks of the seven industrial nations [G-7] to be held in Tokyo. Muto responds: "The talks will focus discussion on how to map out an aid package for Russia. What we have to think about is that the Russians are now striving for reform. They are trying to adopt a market economy, to democratize their nation, and to conduct diplomacy based on law and justice. I believe they are now coming to grips with these three major principles. This is very desirable. With the collapse of the cold war and the end of East-West confrontation, Russia is now striving to join the world community as our partner. This is splendid for world peace. We will have to help Russia move in this direction. From this point of view, Japan will have to work to make these three principles a success, although it has yet to resolve the northern territories issue and has differing views with other nations as regards Russia. We intend to seek an agreement on bilateral and multinational assistance to Russia at the G-7 foreign and finance ministerial talks." Asked by Koshina to specify the assistance to Russia, Muto notes that the "Russians have virtually no knowledge about the market economy, and thus efforts should be made to make them understand how to produce and distribute goods."

Touching on Russia's dumping of radioactive waste into the ocean, Muto stresses: "We will have to stop Russia from dumping such toxic materials at all costs; I intend to seek cooperation from the rest of the industrial nations in helping Russia financially and technologically store radioactive waste. I intend to discuss with the foreign ministers of other industrial nations how to help Russia develop its energy industry."

Asked by Hokamata to comment on Western support for President Yeltsin, Muto says: "It is unclear how long Mr. Yeltsin will stay in power. We hope Russia will become a democratic nation, will pursue a market economy, and will carry through its diplomacy based on law and justice. Whoever becomes the Russian leader, Russia will join the world community as our partner if it sticks to these three principles. I think this process will take time; I do not know how long the process will take. It could take 10 years, or 20 years. Russia will have to tenaciously pursue the process."

Asked by Hokamata to comment on Japan's aid to Russia, Muto says: "As I have just said, it is our principle to help Russia democratize itself and adopt a market economy. To be sure, Japan is still upset about the northern territories issue and about Mr. Yeltsin's abruptly canceling his planned visit. These have made our people harbor displeasure toward Russia, and I fully understand their feelings. But if Japan is negative about aid to Russia, it will come under attack from other nations and would isolate itself from other nations. I believe Japan should avoid coming under such attack. Since Japan is a nation which has benefited most from the free economy, it should provide as much bold assistance to Russia as possible. Japan should also put aside the northern territories issue, and not link assistance to the territories. The northern territories issue is a bilateral matter between Japan and Russia, and I intend to work to have other nations understand Japan's position on the dispute. I think we will have to keep Japanese aid to Russia separate from the territorial issue."

Discussing Japan's commitment of aid to Russia, Muto says: "I have no detailed knowledge about the gap between Japan's commitment of aid to Russia and its actual fulfillment. But officials in charge at my ministry deny the existence of a gap. I intend to implement what will be agreed upon at the G-7 foreign and finance ministerial talks in connection with aid to Russia." Asked by Tanaka to comment on aid to the former Soviet republics apart from Russia, Muto replies: "At present no plans are finalized. But I hope Japan will educate people in the former Soviet republics on establishing small businesses by sending Japanese experts to those nations. Japan should provide assistance to the former Soviet republics, and they will be appreciative of Japan's assistance. I intend to propose this kind of assistance."

Discussing ways for Japan to resolve the territorial issue with Russia, Muto responds: "I believe that what Japan has thus far advocated in connection with the territorial issue is correct in view of the people's feelings and international law. In the future, Japan should continue what it has thus far advocated, and should tenaciously advocate its current position regarding the territories. We fully understand that it is unreasonable for Japan to ask Yelstin to cleanly settle the dispute. As a host nation for the Tokyo Summit, Japan is in a position to seek a consensus among the G-7 on aid to Russia. Therefore, it is not good diplomacy for Japan to raise the territorial issue at the summit. I intend to explain to the people that the government has never defied or given in on the territorial issue. On the same token, Japan should absolutely avoid being criticized by the international community for setting back Russia's progress by refusing to provide aid. Japan should provide as much aid as possible to Russia. We will have to seek the people's understanding of the need for Japan to provide assistance. We also will have to explain to leaders of other industrial nations that Japan has neither given up on aid to Russia nor shelved it, and will not link the territorial dispute with aid."

Asked by Fukushima to comment on the people's feelings toward Russia, Muto says: "The people harbor ill feelings toward Russia, but Russia is now about to change itself. Japan should vitalize personnel exchanges with that country. The government will support exchanges between the two countries at the civilian level. Such exchanges are important."

When questioned by Koshina about the amount of aid to be set at the G-7 foreign and finance ministerial talks, Muto says: "Mr. Clinton has announced specific figures for U.S. aid, and I have heard that France has set the amount of its aid. Japan has yet to set any amount. The government has made its estimate of aid, but no final decision has been made. The Japanese Government must set the amount of aid before the G-7 foreign and finance ministerial talks are opened. I intend to have a candid discussion with the foreign ministers of the rest of the G-7 regarding aid to Russia, and if possible will try to find areas of agreement and shape a consensus among the G-7."

Asked by Koshina if Japan intends to provide as much aid to Russia as the United States does, Muto replies: "It is a delicate matter on which I cannot say. Various discussions are now underway within the government. At this panel discussion, I would like to refrain from specifying on the amount of aid." Muto adds: "Japan will focus on assistance to developing small businesses in Russia. Japan should also ask Russia to stop dumping nuclear waste into the ocean at any cost. We need to provide assistance to Russia to help that country build storage facilities for nuclear waste. Japan should provide such assistance."

Questioned by Koshina on the upcoming Japanese-U.S. summit talks, Muto first stresses the importance of Japan-U.S. relations, then notes the results of an American poll which shows "80 percent of American intellectuals trust Japan." Muto also notes an article in THE NEW YORK TIMES warning against managed trade, saying: "I am really grateful about the article."

Discussing the trade imbalance between Japan and the United States, Muto adds: "Substantial progress has been made in opening Japan's market, except for primary products. When I served as the minister of international trade and industry, the United States imposed tariffs on imported cars while Japan levied none on theirs. As far as industrial products are concerned, Japan's tariffs are now the lowest among the industrial nations. We are now making efforts to boost imports. But what is at issue is imports of farm products. This is a knotty issue which Japan should tackle in the future. Only the liberalization of rice imports is now being mentioned. I am fully aware of our farmers' feelings. My feeling is that there are various ways to resolve the issue of liberalizing rice imports. Japan is now restricting imports of various farm products, including fisheries products. If Japan liberalizes imports of farm products with the exception of rice, it should be able to resolve the issue of liberalizing rice imports. But if Japan refuses to liberalize imports of all farm imports—including rice—it will be difficult to resolve the issue."

When asked by Tanaka to comment on the Uruguay Round, Muto first points to an additional pump-priming package which includes the government's procurement of supercomputers, describing its inclusion as Japan's intention to boost imports from the United States. Referring to the Uruguay Round, Muto says: "I am really concerned about this. If the round ends in failure, which nations will suffer most? Japan will certainly suffer. Our people do not understand this. I hope our people will someday have full understanding. Agricultural negotiations in the round are difficult; I do not know whether they will be settled prior to the Tokyo Summit, but I hope the negotiations will be settled as soon as possible." Muto also comments that the Clinton administration is more negative about the round than the Bush administration.

Asked by Fukushima about the future of Japanese-U.S. relations, Muto replies: "The Republican Party was in control for 12 years, and it was quite natural for the Japanese Government to maintain close ties with the party. But the Japanese Government also kept close ties with Democrats on Capital Hill. I believe the government should work to move Japan-U.S. relations in a more correct direction through parliamentary diplomacy."

Koshina ends the 60-minute panel discussion at 0100 GMT after thanking the panelists.

Owada: Russia Aid To Benefit National Interests

OW1004111293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1049 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Fukuoka, April 10 KYODO—Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada said Saturday western aid to Russia will benefit Japan's national interests.

Owada said in a lecture that aid to Russia by the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations is aimed at building a new social system in the country. He said the longstanding Russo-Japanese territorial dispute and the aid issue are separate problems, and Japan should pursue settlement of both separately.

G-7 foreign and finance ministers will meet in Tokyo on Wednesday and Thursday next week to discuss aid to Russia.

The territorial dispute involves four islands off Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido held by Moscow since the end of World War II but claimed by Japan.

Owada also urged the government to open Japan's rice market to imports.

Japan has to make sacrifices in order to build a global system of cooperation and the rice issue is a symbolic example, he said. He said the government should consider measures to ease the burden of farmers that would be affected by liberalization.

Tokyo Plans Aid for Former Soviet Republics

OW1004025893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0246 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—Japan will give three former Soviet republics—Belarus, Ukraine and Kazakhstan—1 billion yen worth of tools and technology needed to conduct nuclear inspections, government sources said Saturday. The planned aid is intended to help the three nations join the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), they added.

The government will release details of the planned aid to the former Soviet republics at next week's ministerial meeting of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations, they said.

The three republics had expressed a desire to sign the treaty when the former Soviet Union and the United States concluded the Start I treaty on reduction of strategic arms in July 1991. At that time, the three republics also promised to abandon nuclear arms in their territories or to move them to Russia. Once they join the treaty, they must accept nuclear inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Deployment of strategic arms from the former Soviet Union is reportedly concentrated in Russia and the three republics, Japanese officials said. When the IAEA asked why the three republics have yet to sign the treaty, they cited a lack of tools and technology to conduct nuclear inspections.

Japan is ready to provide monitoring cameras for the estimated 40 nuclear facilities in the former Soviet republics, tools such as a computer system for measuring radioactivity, and education for nuclear inspectors.

Official Favors 'Emergency Assistance' for Russia

OW1204100093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0943 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 12 KYODO—A top Finance Ministry official said on Monday that Japan will "make a historical mistake" if it does not give emergency assistance to Russia because of the bilateral territorial dispute. The official, asking not to be named, said Russia is incapable of accomplishing its reforms without foreign help and the territorial issue should be discussed after Russia "gets basic things straight."

Moscow needs technical assistance and has to reorganize the industrial sector, the official said, adding "Russia does not have anything like what is called a monetary system."

Japan has been limiting its economic aid to Russia only for emergency and humanitarian purposes in light of the territorial dispute over the four islands off Hokkaido that were seized by the former Soviet Union at the end of the World War II.

Yeltsin 'Intends' Official Visit to Tokyo

OW1204140193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1350 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Moscow, April 12 KYODO—Russian President Boris Yeltsin said Monday he intends to make an official visit to Japan before the July 7-9 economic summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations in

Tokyo, INTERFAX news agency reported. Yeltsin, who has been invited to the Tokyo summit, disclosed his plan while presenting Russian state awards in the Kremlin.

Although the president did not specify the date of a possible Japan visit, a presidential press official indicated a possibility Yeltsin will make a separate visit to Tokyo besides the summit. The official told KYODO News Service that Yeltsin has plenty of time between an April 25 referendum on his presidency and the summit.

Russian Foreign Ministry officials said they have not informed Japan about such a visit, but Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev will discuss the matter with Japanese officials during his two-day visit to Tokyo this week.

Yeltsin abruptly canceled his scheduled visit to Japan last September ostensibly over domestic troubles, although Japan's demand for the return of four Russian-held islands was widely believed behind the decision. Since then the Yeltsin regime has escalated criticism against Japan.

But Moscow has welcomed Japan's stance that Tokyo will not bring up the territorial dispute at a G-7 ministerial meeting on aid to Russia on Wednesday and Thursday in Tokyo.

Yeltsin's remarks on a Japan visit apparently reflect his intention Russia is ready to mend relations with Japan, which will chair the ministerial meeting, observers said.

At the awards ceremony, during which Rokuro Saito, head of the Japanese Association of Former Prisoners of War, was given the Order of Friendship of Peoples, Yeltsin said he hopes Russia soon has the normal partnership with Japan it enjoys with many other countries, according to INTERFAX.

Minister Urges Steps for Overstaying Foreigners

OW0904060493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0534 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Labor Minister Masakuni Murakami said Friday the government should take new measures to control foreigners who overstay in Japan to stop them breaking the law if they become unemployed.

Murakami told a press conference that the government cannot ignore foreigners, "first of all Iranians," who overstay their visa period, since lack of jobs could lead them to commit crimes.

"The existing law, such as the Employment Security Law, is not sufficient. We need stricter regulations," he said.

On the contents of new measures, Murakami said it is important to control unprincipled employment brokers. The minister said he will examine the problem in cooperation with the Justice Ministry.

Police on Alert Before Emperor's Okinawa Visit

OW1104071193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0627 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 11 KYODO—The Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department on Sunday went on alert ahead of a series of national events, including Emperor Akihito's visit to the southernmost prefecture of Okinawa that starts on April 23, officials said. Police plan to blanket the capital with up to 26,000 officers to guard against possible attack by radical groups, the officials said.

Leftist radicals have already announced they will use "guerrilla attacks" to hinder the visit by Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko to Okinawa to attend an annual tree-planting ceremony. Emperor Akihito will be the first reigning emperor to visit Okinawa, where many islanders oppose the emperor system since many local civilians were killed in the battle at the end of World War II, which was fought in the name of late Emperor Showa, father of the emperor.

On Monday, an imperial ceremony will be held in Tokyo to mark the official engagement of Crown Prince Naruhito to former career diplomat Masako Owada.

Security also will be tightened because of the ministerial meeting of the Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrialized nations on Wednesday and Thursday in Tokyo. Finance and foreign ministers from the G-7 nations—Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States—are to meet to discuss aid to Russia.

In 1986, during the opening ceremonies of the last G-7 summit held in Tokyo, a leftist group fired nomemade rockets toward the gathered leaders, missing them only by about 100 meters.

Upper House Adopts Political Reform Resolution

OW0904020293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0127 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—The House of Councillors on Friday adopted a resolution calling for drastic political reform and a code of ethics in the wake of a series of political scandals.

The resolution, adopted by all parties except the Japanese Communist Party at the plenary session of the upper chamber, said scandals such as the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co. money-and-mobster case had deepened public distrust in politics. It said parliamentary democracy would face a serious crisis if the political situation was left unchecked.

The resolution demonstrated the resolve of upper house members to thoroughly investigate the scandals and establish political ethics during the current session of the Diet. It also urged the government to push for political reform.

A Diet official said the resolution of its kind is unprecedented.

Gotoda Shows Flexibility on LDP Reform Bills

OW1004115093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1131 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Fukuoka, April 10 KYODO—New Deputy Prime Minister Masaharu Gotoda said Saturday the ruling party will be flexible in modifying its proposed political reform bills to overhaul Japan's electoral system. Noting the dispute between the governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the opposition camp over ways to implement political reform, Gotoda told a lecture meeting, "I think the LDP bills are the best but it is the mission of the Diet to seek dialogue and compromise."

Deliberations on the bills, a major topic during the latter half of the current Diet session that ends June 20, will begin in the House of Representatives on Tuesday.

Gotoda, concurrently the justice minister, once served as acting chief of the LDP's Political Reform Headquarters under the administration of Toshiki Kaifu, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's predecessor. He was appointed as deputy prime minister Thursday, replacing ailing Michio Watanabe, and is focusing on Miyazawa's aim to push through political reform.

Gotoda urged that political reform bills be enacted as a package and the reform take effect prior to the next general election, which must be held by February next year.

The four political reform bills proposed by the LDP call for replacing the current multi-seat constituencies for the lower house with single-seat constituencies and tightening controls on political funds.

The country's two largest opposition parties, the Social Democratic Party (SDP) and Komeito, have jointly proposed an alternative package of five reform bills that call for an electoral system combining single-seat constituencies and a proportional representation system for the lower chamber.

Meanwhile, SDP Chairman Sadao Yamahana told reporters Saturday that the party is ready to accept modifications of the SDP-Komeito package within the framework of the combined electoral system. "If other opposition parties propose alternative ideas worth notice, we are ready to discuss them," Yamahana said in Sapporo.

Economic Plan Focuses on Social Infrastructure

OW1004062993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0603 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has drafted its package of economic stimulus measures, featuring nontraditional public works and financial incentives for raising the quality of life, party officials said Saturday. According to the draft package obtained by KYODO News Service, the LDP focuses on measures other than expansion of traditional road and bridge projects in which many orders remain uncontracted from the previous package launched in August.

The centerpiece of the new proposal is more than 1 trillion yen in "new social infrastructure" projects, they said. The party will finalize the package Tuesday morning with outlays expected to total about 12 trillion yen, the largest-ever amount as vowed earlier by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

The government will review the package before endorsing its own plan, which is usually similar to the ruling party's plan, at an economic cabinet meeting, to be held Tuesday evening.

The new pump-priming measures will be the third in a year, following the August 1992 and April packages, to bolster the slumping Japanese economy since 1991.

In the LDP draft plan, new social infrastructure projects emphasized better information networks, and improvement of public research institutions, hospitals, welfare and educational facilities. Recently, senior party officials have been referring these projects as going toward the purchase of optic fiber networks, advanced medical and research equipment, and computers at schools.

As for tax incentives, the plan includes about 50 billion yen for housing loans, and the same amount for investment by smaller firms.

The LDP is expected to exclude income tax cuts as agreed in last-ditch negotiations Thursday with the opposition parties. But as promised, some 160 billion yen in tax breaks will be included, mainly for education, housing and investment.

In addition to tax incentives for consumers, the plan calls for a sharp increase in government-backed housing loans, and an easing of borrowing conditions for the loans.

For smaller businesses, the party wants to allocate more than 2 trillion yen for assistance measures, including lower tax and more government-backed loans.

The draft package also includes front-loading of fiscal 1993 public works spending by more than 75 percent in the first six months.

As for expanding public works spending, the LDP urges early Diet passage of a planned supplementary budget for fiscal 1993 to implement the package.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said earlier that he wants to submit an extra budget proposal as early as possible to the Diet so that it is enacted before the current ordinary session ends in June.

Another important component of the LDP plan is measures to boost imports, including purchases of foreign products by national and local governments.

Also eyeing foreign pressures, the plan calls for large projects, including airports, expressways and Shinkanway routes, to steadily promote the 10-year projects worth 430 trillion yen started in fiscal 1991 in line with the agreements in the Japan-U.S. Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) talks.

KYODO Highlights LDP's Draft Stimulus Plan

OW1004063493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0610 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—The following are highlights of the Liberal Democratic Party's draft stimulus package to be announced Tuesday [13 April].

A. Front-loading of public works
—Advance implementation of public-sector spending for the current business year at a pace faster than the previous year, when more than 75 percent was front-loaded in the first year-half.
—Increase in number of new public works projects through an early passage of extra state budget.

B. Further promotion of big projects
—Construction of new transportation networks, including international airports, Shinkansen (bullet trains) and subways.
—Steady implementation of a program to invest a total of 430 trillion yen in public works during 10-year period, which started in fiscal 1991.

C. "New social infrastructure" to enhance the quality of life, surpassing 1 trillion yen
—Improvements of facilities for basic research activities at state universities.
—Underground installation of electric cables.
—Life-related information networks like optical fiber cables linked to homes.
—Expansion of investment in facilities for medical, social welfare and education, including introduction of state-of-the-art equipment at public hospitals and computers at public elementary and junior high schools.
—Housing-related tax breaks, totaling about 50 billion yen and more government-backed housing loans.

D. Steps to encourage smaller enterprises (2 trillion yen or more)
—Drastic enlargement of government-backed loans for smaller firms and easing of lending conditions.
—Investment tax cuts for smaller firms at a total of 50 billion yen.

E. Stability of the financial system and revitalization of the securities market
—Measures to help financial institutions reduce their bad loans.

F. Stability of employment
—Expansion of industries capable of receiving employment adjustment subsidies

G. Imports promotion
—More purchases of foreign products by central and local governments.
—Tax incentives to promote imports.

Minister of Finance: Economy To Turn Upward

OW1104091893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0904 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] Kitakyushu, Fukuoka Pref., April 11 KYODO—Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi said here Sunday the Japanese economy will turn upward in the first half of fiscal 1993. Hayashi told a news conference that there will be results in the April-September period, thanks to a 72.35 trillion yen budget for fiscal 1993 and a 10.7 trillion yen pump-priming package announced last August.

The government's fresh set of stimulus measures, which will be announced Tuesday, will put the economy on a more stable footing, he said. The size of the new package is expected to top 12 trillion yen.

Hayashi, commenting on the dollar's record lows falling below 113 yen on overseas markets last week, said, "The current pace of the yen's appreciation against the U.S. dollar is too fast." The finance minister said monetary authorities need to keep in contact with foreign countries and take appropriate measures.

He again rejected a proposed income tax cut, saying it would require issuance of deficit-covering bonds which would mean borrowing money from the Bank of Japan.

Mitsuzuka: Fiscal Package Tops 12 Trillion Yen

OW1104044193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0423 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] Wakayama, April 11 KYODO—A senior policymaker for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) told reporters Sunday the new fiscal package will exceed 12 trillion yen.

The expected package is about 1 trillion yen above the previous package of 10.7 trillion yen adopted by the government last August, said Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman of the LDP's Policy Affairs Research Council. This is the first time that Mitsuzuka has referred to the specific size of the package aimed mainly at improving the nation's social infrastructure as part of efforts to rev up the sluggish economy.

The stimulative package is to be worked out by the governing party and adopted by the government on Tuesday.

On the planned sweeping tax system reforms, Mitsuzuka said middle-income earners, among others, are now subject to a heavier tax burden under the present progressive tax rate system. The LDP is studying the possibility of income tax cuts as part of the sweeping reform of the tax system.

To finance an income tax cut, the government and the LDP need to seek financial sources other than a hike in the consumption tax, currently at 3 percent, Mitsuzuka said.

LDP, Finance Ministry Agree on Fiscal Plan

OW1204155293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1536 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 12 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the Finance Ministry have agreed that the new pump-priming package to be announced Tuesday [12 April] will top 13 trillion yen, LDP sources said Monday. The LDP convinced the reluctant Finance Ministry in negotiations which continued till late Monday to boost the scale of what is the largest-ever fiscal package, surpassing the previous package of 10.7 trillion yen adopted by the government last August, the sources said.

The ministry agreed that the package is vital for stimulating the nation's sagging economy and also important in showing the United States that Japan is making serious efforts to achieve its targeted 3.3 percent real economic growth for fiscal 1993. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa is expected to explain about the package to president Bill Clinton when they meet in Washington on Friday.

The government is scheduled to call a meeting of ministers in charge of economic affairs on Tuesday afternoon to formally adopt the new package. It will then work out a supplementary budget for the current fiscal year, based on the new package, and submit it to the Diet sometime after the "Golden Week" holiday, which runs from late April to early May, the sources said.

According to the sources, the package will allocate about 1 trillion yen for a "new social infrastructure" including an advanced telecommunication network, and about 3 trillion yen for public works related to the enhancement of the quality of life. It will also include 150 billion yen worth of tax cuts.

Under the new social infrastructure, the government plans to improve facilities for universities, public research institutions, states-run hospitals and health and welfare sectors. The introduction of computer education programs for public elementary and junior high schools is also included.

Investment in educational and welfare facilities is likely to be increased to about 1 trillion yen from 550 billion yen in the previous package, and is expected to be financed by issuing construction bonds.

Constructing an advanced telecommunication network will be financed by funds from the government's treasury investment and loan program.

The package will also seek front-loading implementation of public-sector spending for the current fiscal year, which started April 1, at a pace faster than in the previous year.

In the housing-related area, government-backed housing loans will be provided for about 590,000 houses, up from the initially planned 550,000 houses.

As for steps to encourage smaller corporations, it plans to provide more government-backed loans by putting up funds from the treasury investment and loan program. It also calls on financial institutions to provide more funds at lower interest rates to smaller enterprises.

It calls for some 150 billion yen worth of tax cuts in education and housing. This is to be financed by reserve funds and earnings from sales of coins commemorating the marriage of Crown Prince Naruhito in June.

Economic Measures Include More Job Subsidies

OW1204042993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0337 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 12 KYODO—The government's economic pump-priming measures, to be announced Tuesday [13 April], will expand government subsidies for employment adjustment, a senior Labor Ministry official said Monday. Kunihiko Saito, director general of the Employment Security Bureau, said the measures also will include a plan to develop jobs for middle-aged workers.

The subsidies are provided to industries that have posted year-on-year production falls for three consecutive months and are implementing employment adjustments, including personnel transfers. Saito said the ministry has been considering raising the subsidy rate and increasing the number of industries eligible for such subsidies.

Encompass Increased Procurement

OW1204122293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1211 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 12 KYODO—The Japanese Government plans to incorporate plans to increase its procurement of equipment, including computers and medical equipment, in the economic stimulus package to be announced Tuesday, government sources said Monday.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will explain the plan when he meets U.S. President Bill Clinton in Washington on Friday, the sources said. Miyazawa will also call for more efforts by the United States to increase exports, the sources said.

As one of the major policies of the Clinton administration in bilateral trade, the U.S. is urging Japan to boost its imports, especially of high-tech products for government use.

When Japanese Trade Minister Yoshiro Mori visited the U.S. in March, both U.S. trade representative Mickey Kantor and Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown urged Japan to set an import quota for government procurement. The Japanese Government has resisted setting such a quota, maintaining it treats domestic and foreign products equally.

The sources said the government will state in its new economic package that it will increase procurement of computers and medical equipment—the area of particular U.S. interest—for use in high-level research and development institutions and in government- run hospitals to meet increasing demand for a new social infrastructure in Japan. The government will not state a concrete target for imports of those products but will say it will promote procurement of foreign products by regional governments, the sources said.

Meanwhile, Transport Ministry officials said the ministry is suggesting that Miyazawa discuss possible bilateral cooperation in transportation technology with Clinton. The Clinton administration has proposed improving a train network in the U.S. as part of its policy to building up the nation's social infrastructure.

Japan, on the other hand, has been pushing development programs for new transportation technology such as linear motor cars, the officials said. If agreed, the two countries could establish a forum of experts to discuss further plans, they added.

Economist Suggests Consumer Pressure on MITI

OW1004044993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0406 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—While the yen staged a remarkable upward spurt against the U.S. dollar in the past two months, Japanese consumers cannot expect, at least for now, to reap the benefits stemming from the sharp appreciation of the currency.

Some major supermarket chain operators have offered 20-30 percent discounts on some foodstuffs, with the aim of returning profits from the high yen to consumers, they say, as part of efforts to boost consumer spending amid the current economic slump.

The French bag maker Louis Vuitton also started selling its 35,000 yen scarfs at 30,000 yen and 52,000 yen bags at 50,000 yen, citing the recent fluctuations in exchange rates.

But most importers employ a wait-and-see attitude, saying it takes nearly half a year before contracted goods are received and therefore the merit of the yen's appreciation will not emerge soon.

On Friday [9 April], the dollar fell to a record low against the yen in Tokyo, ending at 113.15 yen, off 0.50 yen from Thursday. The U.S. currency plummeted below the 113 yen level in New York and London on Thursday, hitting a global low of 112.87 yen in London.

Meidi-ya Co., a Tokyo-based trader of food stuffs, has not changed the price tags on imported liquor because its exchange gains only cover part of higher cost prices, company officials said.

Yamazaki Baking Co., which sold bread at lower prices in 1987 due to the yen's sharp appreciation, is cool to yet another lowering of its bread prices.

Public utility charges are also unlikely to come down.

Electric power suppliers, for example, are said to gain 11 billion yen a year if the dollar slips 1 yen against the yen, but they contend they face problems that offset the profits. "The returning of exchange gains is out of the question" due to the recent rise in crude oil prices, an official of the Federation of Electric Power Companies said, apparently trying to forestall a possible chorus seeking lowered electricity bills.

"Although profits from the stronger yen should be returned to consumers, the high appreciation of the currency in the past wound up not being reflected in prices," grumbled Yoshiyasu Ota, director general of the National Liaison Committee of Consumers' Organizations. "We wish to launch a drive demanding lower consumer goods prices while closely monitoring the developments in the yen's exchange rate," Ota said.

Economist Kimindo Kusaka, however, cautioned that it is not so easy to return exchange gains resulting from the higher yen as is hoped for by consumers.

"Selling at high prices and making money. That's what business is all about," he said. "You cannot expect imported goods to be sold at discounted prices just because wholesale prices were down. The economy is not so simple a structure."

Consumer goods prices will not be lowered and imports will not increase unless consumers bring pressure on distributors and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Kusaka said.

Mongolia

Parties Choose Candidates for 6 June Elections

LD1104220793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1800 GMT 11 Apr 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dugar Sanzhiyev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 11 Apr—The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP], which has an absolute majority in the People's Great Hural, has nominated

Lodongiyn Tudev as its presidential candidate. This was made known late this evening at the end of the MPRP's general party conference.

Lodongiyn Tudev is well-known in the country as a scientist, writer, public figure, and chief editor of the newspaper "UNEN".

Earlier, two other parliamentary parties—the Mongolian Social Democratic Party [MSDP] and the Mongolian National Democratic Party [MNDP]—named their candidates. The current head of state, Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat, is one of their six candidates. However, it is not yet known which of them will be included in the voting paper for the secret ballot since the MSDP and the MNDP make up a single opposition bloc to the MPRP and their final decision will be taken on 12 April.

Mongolia's presidential elections will take place on 6 June.

Ochirbat Fails To Secure Election Nomination

OW1104094493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0933 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, April 11 KYODO—Mongolian President Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat has failed to secure his party's nomination for forthcoming presidential elections, making it highly unlikely he will be able to stand for another term.

Ochirbat was defeated by newspaper editor Lodongiyn Tudev at a People's Revolutionary Party meeting Saturday [10 April] to formally select a presidential candidate for the June 6 election. Tudev, editor-in-chief of the party's official newspaper "UNEN" (Truth), got 117 votes to Ochirbat's 56.

Ochirbat must now wait to see if another political party wishes to name him as its presidential candidate. He has been nominated as one of three prospective candidates by the opposition Social Democratic Party, which is slated to make a final decision Monday.

Tudev, who is in his early 50s, is a former first secretary of the Mongolian Youth League's Central Committee and a famous writer. He also has a doctorate in history and is expected to be a strong advocate of economic reforms.

Mongolians Said Executed During Stalin Purges

OW1203122993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1216 GMT 12 Mar 93

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, March 12 KYODO—Some 27 Mongolian officials, including two prime ministers, were executed in the former Soviet Union during Stalinist purges more than 50 years ago as collaborators with the Japanese, secret documents reveal. The documents compiled by the former Soviet Supreme Court and gathered in a 62-page booklet dated December 15, 1956, of which KYODO News Service has obtained a copy, are the first to confirm that Mongolians died for their alleged Japanese connections.

Mongolian historians estimate that up to 100,000 people were killed in the Stalinist purges, which aimed mainly at eliminating the Buddhist clergy.

According to the documents the Prime Ministers B. Genden and A. Amar [names as received] were tried at Soviet military tribunals as traitors and shot by firing squads in 1937 and 1941 respectively.

Among the others executed during that period were five cabinet members and five senior party officials, while most of the rest held senior posts in Mongolia's Interior Ministry.

"Worked as a spy in Mongolia for Japanese intelligence organizations," or "built relations with Japanese Intelligence Agency to gain military support from Japan," read some of the charges. Others were found guilty of having plotted a coup d'etat to make Mongolia a Japanese protectorate.

North Korea

Reaction to Withdrawal From Nuclear Treaty Continues

Spokesman on Vancouver Statement on NPT

SK1004110993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1044 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Saturday answered a question of KCNA on the recent "statement" jointly issued by the U.S., British and Russian Governments on the question of the withdrawal of the DPRK from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and the subsequent reference to this question in the "Vancouver Declaration" of the U.S.-Russia summit.

He said: As already reported, as regards the self-defensive measure taken by our republic in withdrawing from the NPT by exercising its sovereignty, the United States, Britain and Russia, the depositaries of the treaty, published a "joint statement" in Vienna, Austria, on April 1 and this question was referred to in the "Vancouver Declaration" that came at the end of the U.S.-Russia summit on the fourth.

The "statement" and the "declaration" demanded that the DPRK "revoke" the decision to withdraw from the treaty and fulfil its obligations under the treaty and the safeguards agreement, contending that its withdrawal from the NPT "poses a grave threat to the regional and international stability" and "endangers the security of the Korean peninsula and might frustrate the implementation of the North-South joint declaration on denuclearisation."

That the depositaries of the NPT published such "statement" and mentioned the question in the "declaration" after the unjustifiable "resolution" to transfer the so-called "nuclear problem" of the DPRK to the United Nations was adopted at a meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] is nothing but a foolish ruse to mislead world opinion and thus cover up the illegal acts of the United States and the IAEA at any cost and inveigle other countries into undermining the ground of the DPRK's withdrawal from the treaty.

Far from fulfilling its obligations as a depositary of the NPT, the United States unhesitatingly conducted such unreasonable acts as imposing its will on other countries and international organizations while openly departing from its obligations under the NPT.

The United States has not removed nuclear threat to non-nuclear states, but increased it.

Under the "policy of nuclear umbrella" the United States has already brought more than 1,000 nuclear weapons into South Korea, constantly reinforced its nuclear arsenals with more uptodate nuclear weapons and equipment and turned South Korea into the biggest showcase of nuclear weapons in the world.

It more openly increased nuclear threat by resuming the "Team Spirit" joint military maneuvers it had suspended before the beginning of inspections of the DPRK by the IAEA and thus led the situation of the Korean peninsula to an extreme pitch of strain.

Especially, the United States did not give any specific guarantee or commitment to the non-use of nuclear weapons against the DPRK, which it should have done as a belligerent party of the DPRK and a depositary of the NPT still occupying the southern half of the Korean peninsula.

The United States is not entitled to argue about the DPRK's withdrawal from the NPT because it is the very one that acted against its obligations under the NPT and resorted to nuclear threat and pressure against the DPRK in an attempt to stifle its socialist system.

The United States manipulated the inspection of the DPRK by the IAEA, arrogantly behaving as if its demand meant "international order."

The United States provided some officials of the IAEA Secretariat with its faked-up "intelligence information" to create the "inconsistency" on the basis of it and instructed the director general of the IAEA to make a "challenge inspection", "special inspection" of the DPRK at a "joint hearing" at both houses of the United States on July 22 last year.

When its attempt to disarm the DPRK in such a manner as to get its ordinary military sites opened one by one was frustrated, the United States put on show even its faked-up "intelligence satellite photos" at the meeting place, unhesitatingly committing such illegal act as instigating member states of the IAEA Board of Governors.

The United States has left no stone unturned in a bid to drive the DPRK into a trap of international isolation, creating the "suspicion of nuclear arms development" against it. For example, it manipulated Western countries to refrain from establishing relations with the DPRK.

It is the legitimate right of a sovereign state and entirely just for the DPRK to have withdrawn from the treaty under which such unreasonable demand of the United States is deemed a "rule."

By "appealing" to the treaty nations to urge the DPRK to "cancel" its decision of withdrawal through a "statement" and a "declaration" in the capacity of a depositary of the treaty, the United States, the very one which made the DPRK withdraw from the NPT, reveals once again its nature as the international gendarme trying to force its will upon others.

The DPRK proposed a negotiation to the IAEA Secretariat with a view to implementing the safeguards agreement even after the unreasonable "resolution on special inspection" was adopted against it at the IAEA Board of Governors meeting.

Acting on the prearranged U.S. script, however, some officials of the IAEA Secretariat ignored even this offer of negotiation of the DPRK and responded by submitting its "nuclear problem" to the United Nations.

The DPRK's "nuclear problem" is, in essence, a matter between the DPRK and the United States and it can, therefore, be solved only through negotiations between them.

What must not be overlooked here is the behavior of Russia.

Russia styling itself a big power is not able to solve properly its complicated domestic problems and the problem of nuclear weapons of the member nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States, thus presenting a danger to peace in Asia and the rest of the world. Yet it has the cheek to join force with other big powers in an effort to stifle the Korean socialism. We cannot understand why.

It had better mind its own business.

It is desirable that Russia recall how it behaved as a depositary of the NPT.

Spokesman on UNSC President's Statement

SK1004124293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1057 GMT 10 Apr 93

["DPRK Foreign Ministry Spokesman on 'Statement of President' of U.N. Security Council"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA)—What the United Nations Security Council [UNSC] can do with regard to the DPRK's "nuclear problem" is to take practical steps to make the United States respond to negotiations with us and fully discharge its responsibility and duty, stressed a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in a statement today.

Noting that a "statement of the president" concerning the so-called "nuclear problem" of the DPRK was released Friday [9 April] after talks behind closed door at the United Nations Security Council, the spokesman said:

It expressed "concern over the situation created after the DPRK's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]" and said "the members of the Security Council welcome all efforts aimed at resolving this situation and in particular encourage the International Atomic Energy Agency to continue its consultation without [words indistinct].

As the process of the talks shows, the United Nations Security Council, by origin, is not a place for debating on such matters as the fictitious "nuclear problem" of the DPRK.

It mainly discusses such acts as disturbing and endangering world peace and security.

The DPRK's withdrawal from the NPT and the problems in the implementation of the safeguards agreement are matters pertaining to sovereignty. They cannot be considered to be acts wrecking world peace and threatening other country's security.

If the "nuclear suspicion" against the DPRK poses a threat to world peace and security, the nuclear weapons which actually exist in other nations must be a threat a hundred-fold more grave.

If the United Nations Security Council want to deal with the nuclear problem from a stand of guaranteeing world peace and security, it must call in question, first of all, the United States which was the first in the world to develop nuclear weapons and has the largest arsenal of such kind of weapons.

How can the U.N. Security Council remain indifferent to the illegal acts of the United States and some officials of the IAEA Secretariat who brought the situation of the Korean peninsula to the extreme pitch of strain by resuming the nuclear war rehearsal, "Team Spirit" joint military maneuvers, which had been suspended, today when the Cold War has come to an end and who violate the sovereignty and security of a non-nuclear state by abusing the statute of the IAEA, the NPT and the safeguards agreement?

The U.N. Security Couuncil must not depart from the principle of international justice and impartiality.

We are a victim who has been exposed to nuclear threat and had their sovereignty infringed upon. The offenders are the United States and some officials of the IAEA manipulated by it.

If the U.N. Security Council leaves alone the Western powers and their followers, though they are offenders, and looks down on and slights small countries, though they are victims, the small countries of the Third World will no more trust the present U.N. Security Council.

As we have declared time and again, there is no change in our position to sincerely fulfil mifbligations pursuant to the nuclear safeguards agreement, and our position to solve the problems that might arise therefrom through negotiation is consistent.

On March 30, we proposed once again to the IAEA to hold negotiation concerning the implementation of the safeguards agreement.

We still hope that the IAEA will revoke its unreasonable "resolution" charging the DPRK with "noncompliance" with the safeguards agreement and respond to our proposal for negotiation.

It is the United States that has increased nuclear threat to us and compelled us to withdraw from the NPT, and it is also the United States that manipulated ths IAEA to abuse the safeguards agreement. So, the final solution of this problem depends on DPRK-USA negotiation.

We hope that the U.N. Security Council will properly act in conformity with the demand of the present situation and the principle of international justice lest it should repeat its past error in dealing with the Korean issue.

Spokesman Urges Direct Talks With U.S.

SK1104005293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Statement by DPRK Foreign Ministry Spokesman on UN Security Council President's Statement]

[Text] A DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman on 10 April issued the following statement in connection with a statement by the president concerning the so-called "nuclear issue" of the DPRK, which was issued after recent unofficial negotiations at the UN Security Council.

The statement of the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman:

The head of the UN Security Council on 9 April issued a statement on our so-called nuclear issue after unofficial negotiations.

The statement expressed concern over the situation created after we withdrew from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and said that the UN Security Council member countries welcome all efforts aimed at resolving this situation. It also said that the member countries encourage the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] to continue its negotiation with us.

As the process of these unofficial negotiations shows, the UN Security Council, by nature, is not the place for debating such issues as our nonexistent nuclear issue. The UN Security Council's basic mission is to discuss such acts as destroying and threatening world peace and security.

Our withdrawal of the NPT or the problems arising in implementing the safeguards agreement are problems pertaining to sovereignty. Therefore, they cannot be regarded as acts destroying world peace or threatening other countries' security.

If suspicion about our nuclear development poses a threat to world peace and security, nuclear weapons openly developed by other countries must be a hundredfold more grave threat.

If the UN Security Council want to deal with the nuclear issue from its stand of assuming responsibility for world peace and security, it should call in question, first of all, the United States which was the first country to develop nuclear weapons and has the largest arsenal of those kinds of weapons.

Today when the cold war has come to an end, the United States resumed the Team Spirit joint military exercise, a nuclear war rehearsal, which had been suspended, and extremely strained the situation on the Korean peninsula. Furthermore, the United States and some circles of the IAEA secretariat infringed upon the sovereignty and security of a non-nuclear state by abusing the IAEA statute, the NPT, and the safeguards agreement. How can the UN Security Council remain indifferent to these illegal acts by them?

The UN Security Council should not deviate from international justice and the principle of impartiality. We are already a victim who has been exposed to nuclear threat and had its sovereignty infringed upon, and the offenders are the United States and some circles of the IAEA manipulated by it.

If the UN Security Council leaves alone the Western powers and their followers, though they are offenders, and looks down on and slights small countries, though they are victims, the small countries of the Third World will no longer trust the present UN Security Council.

As we have declared time and again, there is no change in our position to sincerely fulfill the obligations pursuant to the nuclear safeguards accord, and our position to solve the problems that might arise therefrom through negotiation is consistent.

On 30 March, we proposed once again to the IAEA to hold negotiation concerning the implementation of the safeguards accord. We still hope that the IAEA will revoke its unreasonable resolution charging us falsely with noncompliance with the safeguards accord and respond to our proposal for negotiation.

It is the United States that has increased its nuclear threat to us and compelled us to withdraw from the NPT, and it is also the United States that manipulated the IAEA to abuse the safeguards accord. Therefore, the final solution of this problem depends on DPRK-U.S. negotiations. What the UN Security Council can do in connection with our nuclear issue is to take a practical measure to have the United States come forward to the negotiation with us and fulfill its responsibilities and obligations.

We hope that the UN Security Council will properly act in conformity with the demand of the present situation and the principle of international justice, lest it should repeat its past error in dealing with the Korean issue.

Ministry Denounces Japan's Stance

SK0904153893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1521 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA)—A spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea published a statement today denouncing the Japanese authorities who have been behaving very impudently since our country took a self-defensive measure of withdrawing from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT].

The spokesman says:

The Japanese authorities led the show with extra zeal when an unjustifiable "resolution" on transferring our so-called "nuclear problem" to the United Nations was adopted at a meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] some time ago and these days they are working round the clock to have a step of "sanctions" against us taken at the United Nations.

This is one more ill-boding act of the Japanese Government to violate the sovereignty of our country and the dignity of our nation and isolate and stifle our republic at any cost, teaming up as ever with the United States. Even at the time when our honesty in the peaceful use of atomic energy was being verified in the course of ad hoc inspections by the IAEA, Japan, tailing behind the United States, demanded a "special inspection" of our military sites unrelated to nuclear activities and persistently tried to take our "nuclear problem" to the United Nations and "internationalise" it.

Japan has played the role of a shock brigade in bringing the situation of and around the Korean peninsula to an unpredictable phase and she is one of those which compelled us to take the self-defensive measure of withdrawing from the NPT to defend the dignity of the nation and the supreme interests of the country.

Nevertheless, she dared demand us to "evoke" the withdrawal from the NPT. This itself is preposterous.

As a matter of fact, the Japanese authorities have neither justification nor face to say anything about our self-defensive measure. In the document called "Merits and Demerits in Interests in Signing the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty" made public by them on October 11, 1969, just before putting their signature to it, they officially stated, "A country may withdraw from the NPT when its supreme interests are threatened. It is natural to secede from the NPT when the situation compels it to do so."

This notwithstanding, the Japanese authorities are becoming so provocative against our country, maliciously decrying the self-defensive measure taken by it under the extraordinarily grave situation . This is, indeed, a self-contradictoy behaviour.

This demeanour only betrays the brazen-faced nature of the Japanese authorities and the chronic meanness of the Japanese diplomats who dance to the American tune.

The Japanese authorities are poking their nose into other's affairs, though they know too well that the DPRK's "nuclear problem" is a matter that should be resolved between the DPRK and the United States through negotiations. What they seek in this is to secure a legal ground to become a military power and realize nuclear armament.

The Japanese authorities are now zealously following the U.S. moves to stifle our socialist system. But they must not act rashly, deeply mindful that our people who regard independence as their life and soul are not afraid of any "threat" or "pressure".

They should bear in mind that should they persist in acting recklessly, standing on the side of the United States, [word indistinct] belligerent party, before liquidating their past wrongs, this will bring unpredictable consequences to this region including the Korean peninsula and Japan either will ever be safe from them. [sentence as received]

Radio Notes PRC Emphasis on Negotiation

SK1004052993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0400 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, in a weekly news briefing on 8 April, disclosed the Chinese position concerning the issue of nuclear inspection of our country. He said that China has always supported the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and hopes that peace and security are maintained there. Concerning the issue of the nuclear inspection of our country, he said that China always supports the seeking of an appropriate solution by the parties concerned through dialogue and negotiations.

The spokesman said that China believes that dialogue will be more effective than pressure and that referring the issue to a meeting of the UN Security Council will make the issue more complicated rather than contributing to the solution of the problem. He said that the parties concerned should exert great patience and take a flexible measure under the present situation and that the International Atomic Energy Agency should continue to play a constructive role in finding an appropriate solution to the problem.

Envoy: U.S. Talks 'Only Way' To Solve Issue

SK1004063293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0500 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Son Song-pil, DPRK ambassador to Russia, on 7 April met a PRAVDA correspondent in connection with the special inspection maneuvers of the United States and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

He said that our nuclear issue is an issue between our country and the United States rather than the IAEA. He said that it was undoubtedly the IAEA that adopted the resolution on the special inspection of the military sites [kunsa taesangdul] of our country and decided to refer it to the UN Security Council, but that it was the United States that manipulated the IAEA to fabricate this resolution.

He said that our country decided to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] not only because of the problem of special inspection of the military sites of our country but because the United States intensified its nuclear threat against our country, a nonnuclear state, instead of faithfully implementing its obligations pursuant to the NPT, further supplemented and completed [wanbi] nuclear weapons in South Korea, instead of withdrawing them from there, resumed the Team Spirit joint military exercise which had been suspended, and is posing a new nuclear threat.

He said that the only way to solve this problem is to negotiate between our country and the United States. He warned that if the United States takes sanctions, we will take a corresponding strong self-defensive measure.

He continued and exposed with specific facts that the United States is implementing a double standard policy. He said that our country will make active efforts in the future as well to make the Korean peninsula a nonnuclear zone, and urged the United States and the countries licking its heel to act with reason.

IAEA Resolution 'Act of Aggression'

SK1004021193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0018 GMT 10 Apr 93

[NODONG SINMUN 10 April commentary: "We Will Not Tolerate the Anti-Republic Hostile Act"]

[Text] As has been reported, a resolution on referring our so-called nuclear issue to the United Nations was forcibly adopted at a recently held board of governors meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] by the United States and the forces licking its heel. The government of our Republic firmly condemned and rejected this through a Foreign Ministry statement and announced its principled position as regards this issue.

The decision to refer our so-called nuclear issue to the United Nations was a very unfair act contradicting independence [chajusong] and international justice, and it is an open act of enmity by the United States and the forces licking its heel aimed at isolating and strangling [korip apsal] our Republic.

By referring our so-called nuclear issue to the United Nations, they are attempting to internationalize it and achieve their wicked and treacherous objective by imposing collective pressure and sanctions on us. In short, the United States and the forces licking its heel are attempting to make us revoke our decision to withdraw from the treaty by all means [ottoke hana] and comply with special inspections so as to disarm us and pull our socialism apart.

Referring our nuclear issue to the United Nations leads the situation in our country to further tensions and to an even greater danger of war. If our nuclear issue is discussed in the UN arena and some sanctions are taken, an unforeseen grave situation can develop [yegyonchi anattun omjunghan sataega ironalsu itta]. Therefore, the so-called game of adopting a resolution is a great threat to the security of our country and its people.

There is no feasibility or legal ground warranting referring our so-called nuclear issue to the United Nations. The assertion of the United States and some circles of the IAEA Secretariat is that they should refer the issue to the United Nations because we reject the special inspections of the two military sites [kunsa taesang] which have nothing to do with nuclear activities. This is preposterous. The call for the special inspections by the United States and the forces licking its heel is not only unprecedented in the history of the IAEA. By it they intend to open up our military bases and legalize their espionage act. This is an open anti-Republic act of aggression. Needless to say, it is an act of encroaching on our national sovereignty and supreme interests of the country. Hence, our opposition to the special inspections is our proper exercise of sovereignty.

They are attempting to refer the matter to the United Nations and put some pressure on the ground that the exercise of sovereignty by a signatory state of the treaty hampers the realization of their wicked and treacherous objective. This is a crime that cannot give any rational reason. This is a brigandish logic that the signatory states of the treaty like us should not exercise sovereignty but be victimized by major powers [taeguktul]. If this is permitted, the United Nations will become a place toying with the fate of the countries which stick to the principled position.

Also, our nuclear issue is not a matter to be discussed in the UN arena. It is a matter to be resolved through negotiations between us and the United States. It is the United States that invented the allegation on our suspected nuclear development [haek uihoksol]. It is because they [kuduri] intensified nuclear threat against us and attempted to force special inspections upon us that we withdrew from the treaty and have become unable to implement the safeguards accord.

The nuclear issue in Korea originated because the United States brought numerous nuclear weapons into South Korea and turned it into a nuclear powder magazine. The issue remains unresolved even now when the nuclear confrontation between superpowers has been brought to an end and the joint declaration on denuclearization between the North and the South has been adopted and effectuated. This is entirely because the United States continues to follow the nuclear policy against our Republic.

Therefore, the party concerned that should be subject to punishment before the UN's defendant seat is not us, but the United States that violated the obligations of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and is applying nuclear threat to a nonnuclear state. Nevertheless, some officials of the IAEA Secretariat are not uttering a single word about the United States. That is not all. The IAEA is not applying any kind of sanctions against Japan, Israel, South Africa, or South Korea, who are accelerating to arm themselves with nuclear weapons. This reveals for itself that the IAEA is openly applying its double standard by becoming culprits of big powers without showing any fairness.

Who will have faith in an international agency that is applying such a theory that a certain country has to implement the NPT even by having its sovereign right infringed upon, while it is all right for another country to act arbitrarily by even violently violating the NPT.

Laying our nuclear issue before the United Nations only creates complications in resolving this issue. The United States should not evade its responsibility and come forward in the negotiating table with us. Trying to drag our nuclear issue to the United Nations and apply collective sanctions is contrary to the regulations of the NPT.

The withdrawal from the NPT was an act of exercising our sovereign right and right of international law to defend the country's supreme interest. There is no problem here. The right to withdraw from the NPT is stipulated in the regulations. However it is not stipulated in the regulations that finds fault with or applies sanctions on withdrawing from the NPT.

The United Nations is entrusted with the mission to safeguard justice and peace. It should not discuss about our legitimate and just self-defensive measure, but should turn its attention to maneuvers by the United States which is strengthening its nuclear threat on a nonnuclear state and increasing the danger of war. Moreover, it should take practical measures to check the United States.

In the past, the United Nations had left a shameful blot by acting contrary to its mission. If the United Nations adopts an unlawful resolution against our republic, which loves peace and is acting fairly, it will leave another blot in its history and the confidence of most of the member countries will be weakened.

Countries that follow the intention of the United States are countries that have no sovereign right. They should correctly know that they will receive denunciation from mankind.

In the past we have never tolerated the act of infringing upon the nation's sovereign right and the country's supreme interest. We answered by carrying out self-defensive measures corresponding to it. Any kind of pressure and collective sanctions are not admissible to us. Our people are not afraid of anything.

The United States and its follower forces should bear in mind that our people will by no means make empty talk, and act with discretion.

Paper Criticizes IAEA Resolution

SK1004060693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0532 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA)—The United Nations whose mission it is to safeguard justice and peace must pay attention to the U.S. moves to intensify nuclear threat to a non-nuclear state and increase the danger of war and must take practical steps to check them, instead of debating on the legitimate and just self-defensive measures taken by the Demoractic People's Republic of Korea, urges NODONG SINMUN today.

The decision to transfer the socalled "nuclear problem" of the DPRK to the United Nations which was adopted at a meeting of the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency is a very unfair one going against independence and international justice and it is an undisguised hostile act of the United States and its followers intended to isolate and stifle the DPRK, the news analyst says, and goes on:

The DPRK's "nuclear problem" is not a matter to be discussed at the United Nations but a problem which should be solved through negotiations between the DPRK and the United States.

It is the United States that invented the rumor about "nuclear suspicion" against the DPRK. And it was because the U.S. increased nuclear threat to the DPRK and demanded a "special inspection" that the DPRK was compelled to withdraw from the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and barred from implementing the safeguards agreement.

The nuclear problem was, by origin, raised in Korea because the United States brought many nuclear weapons into South Korea to turn it into a nuclear arsenal.

So, it is not the DPRK but the United States that should be punished by the United Nations for its noncompliance with its obligations under the NPT and for its nuclear threat to a nuclear have-not.

The transfer of the DPRK's "nuclear problem" to the United Nations will only result in making the problem further complicated in its settlement.

The United States must not evade its responsibility but come out to negotiations with the DPRK.

The transfer of the "nuclear problem" to the United Nations for "collective sanctions" against the DPRK is contrary to the provisions of the NPT, too.

If the United Nations adopt an illegal "resolution" against the DPRK which loves peace and acts in a fair and above-board manner, it would leave another stain in its history and weaken confidence of a majority of its member nations in it. Those nations which are following the U.S. will must clearly understand that they will be denounced by mankind as nations bereft of independence.

Any "pressure" and "collective sanctions" will not work on the DPRK. The Korean people are not afraid of anything.

The United States and its followers would be well advised to act with discretion, mindful that the Korean people never talk empty words.

Spokesman Denounces Russia's Nuclear Waste Disposal

SK1204004393 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] A DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman on 11 April answered questions raised by a correspondent of the Korean Central News Agency [KCNA] in connection with the revelation by the former Soviet Union and Russia of their secret abandonment [mollae sujang] of radioactive waste materials [pangsasong pyegimul] into the sea. The answers are as follows:

The former Soviet Union and Russia were revealed to have recently abandoned ractioactive waste materials into the East Sea of Korea and many other places. This has neighboring countries worried.

What one should not overlook in this is that nuclear wastes have been discarded in places very close to our country. This means that the danger of damages by radioactive waste materials to our country is very great.

The earth's environment today has been contaminated by nuclear powers, like Russia and the United States, and the mode of life [saengtae] faces the danger of destruction [pagoedoel wihum].

They not only freely manufactured and deployed nuclear weapons but also freely abandoned dangerous nuclear wastes which will destroy the mode of life. By doing so, they infringed upon the interests of other countries and threatened people's lives. Thus, they are causing numerous calamities [haearilsu omnun chaenanul tulsuida] to mankind.

While secretly abandonning [mollae porida] nuclear waste in the East Sea of Korea in violation of the international treaty on prevention of marine contamination, Russia raved that we should revoke our withdrawal from the treaty [Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty], and so forth, on the pretext of our nonexistent nuclear issue. This is ridiculous [kasoropda].

The United States and its follower forces labelled our country, under constant nuclear threat encircled by nuclear powers, as a so-called state of noncompliance to the Nuclear Safeguards Accord, and transferred our nuclear issue to the United Nations. This is a tactic designed to stifle [apsal] our country, which is adhering to socialism, and to conceal their inhumane and anti-peace nuclear policy.

Nuclear powers which threaten other countries with nuclear weapons and endanger the mode of life with nuclear wastes are the very target which should be examined [simui toeda] and denounced at the United Nations.

The nuclear powers should discard the idea of oppressing other people with a high-handed principle and should apologize to mankind for having contaminated the earth with nuclear wastes and for the act of threatening people's lives.

DPRK Not To Attend UN Disarmament Conference

OW0904143893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1427 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Kyoto, April 9 KYODO—North Korea has given notice that it will not send representatives to an annual U.N. disarmament conference starting next Tuesday [13 April] in Kyoto, conference officials said Friday. The secretariat of the conference had invited North Korea to attend the conference but received a letter from Pyongyang in late March saying it will not participate, they said. The conference, third of its kind, will discuss nuclear nonproliferation.

The officials suggested North Korea decided to boycott the conference to avoid discussions on Pyongyang's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, saying that the country had been positive about attending before it announced the withdrawal on March 12. Eighty-nine representatives from 37 countries, mainly Asia-Pacific nations, are expected to participate in the meeting, the officials said.

Pyongyang To Refuse Foreign Reporters on Kim Birthday

OW1204085593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0836 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Beijing, April 12 KYODO—Pyongyang will not permit foreign journalists to enter North Korea for birthday observances on Thursday [15 April] of President Kim Il-song, North Korean Ambassador to China Chu Chang-chun said Monday.

Chu told reporters that last year was a special occasion as Kim, North Korea's only leader since its founding in 1948, turned 80, but added "as for this year, it is not the case. I hope this will be understood."

North Korea watchers here suggested that the celebrations will be toned down considerably this year compared to last year's rallies and banquets.

Chu also called on South Korea to accept Kim's 10-point program on unification that was adopted by last week's session of the Supreme People's Assembly, North Korea's legislature.

The ambassador remarked that the announcement of the program was to commemorate Kim's birthday.

Commentator Urges South To Accept 4-Point Demands

SK1004132493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Commentary by station commentator Yun Pyong-son: "The South Side Should Clarify Its Position"]

[Text] The Fifth Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK was convened in Pyongyang on 7 April to discuss the adoption of the program for great unity of the whole nation to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland. The session adopted the 10-point program of great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country.

Along with this, the four-point demands—to abandon the policy of dependence on outside forces, to manifest their will to get the U.S. Forces withdrawn from South Korea, to suspend joint military exercises with foreign troops for good, and to free themselves from the U.S. nuclear umbrella—were put forward to the South Korean authorities. The demands laid before the South Korean authorities are just and patriotic demands that will end the history of confrontation and division. They reflect the unanimous will of the whole nation aspiring for unity and reunification.

As everyone knows, nearly half a century has passed since the country was divided by outside forces. However, our nation has failed to achieve reconciliation and unity. There has been antagonistism, hostility, and confrontation. Outside forces who do not want the reunification of Korea and the South Korean authorities who are licking their heels should bear total responsibility for this situation in our nation, which lived harmoniously together as one nation on the same land for a long time.

Looking back, we note that the South Korean authorities, thoroughly subjugated to the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese imperialists in every field, including political, economic, and military fields, maintained closer relations with outside forces than with the fellow countrymen and pursued antagonism and confrontation rather than reconciliation and unity by practicing the policy of dependence on the United States and Japan.

The South Korean authorities begged the United States for its troops' perpetual occupation of South Korea. This occupation is the source of all misfortunes and sufferings of the nation and a basic obstacle to the reunification of the fatherland. They betrayed the agreement with the fellow countrymen by staging the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise in collaboration with outside forces. Thus they created the obstacle to dialogue and reunification and attempted to impose nuclear holocaust on fellow countrymen.

As a result, the grave danger of our country's perpetual division and falling victim to major powers was created. The present situation urgently demands that the South Korean authorities clarify their position and attitude on the four-point demands as an expression of their aspiration for independence.

Whether or not the South Korean authorities accept these demands—to abandon the policy of dependence on outside forces, manifest their will to get the U.S. Forces withdrawn from South Korea, suspend joint military exercises with foreign troops for good, and free themselves from the U.S. nuclear umbrella—will help determine whether the South Korean authorities are willing to assume an independent position. This is also a yardstick that shows whether the South Korean regime is really an independent civilian government.

Recently, in his inaugural speech, the person in authority in South Korea who came to power stated that no ally can be better than the nation. If he made this remark honestly, and if the South Korean regime, which mentions reason-prevailing politics [munmin chongchi], is different from the previous subjugated military fascist regimes, he should prove this through practice rather than words so that people can believe it.

If the South Korean authorities regard their fellow countrymen as more important than outside forces and value the independence of the nation more highly than the dependence on outside forces, there will be no reason or condition whatsoever to reject our just demands.

If the South Korean authorities willingly accept our four-point demands, which contain the ardent request of the nation, the North and the South will be able to make rapid progress in North-South dialogue, which is stalemated [tonggyol sangtaee innun], and simultaneously defend the national dignity and interest. Then a historic change will undoubtedly take place in North-South relations and a momentous phase will open in resolving the issue of the country's reunification.

The South Korean authorities should boldly throw away the outdated way of thinking, accept our demands, and clarify their attitude.

We will watch the attitude of the South Korean authorities.

KCNA Reports 7-8 Apr U.S.-ROK 'Bombing Exercises'

SK1004054993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0506 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA)—Formations of fighter-bombers and assault planes of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces based in the Pacific staged long-distance bombing exercises in the sky above South Korea on April 7 and 8, according to military sources.

On April 7 formations of Japan-based fighter-bombers staged an exercise of dropping bombs on designated targets in the skies above Pyongchang and Yoju, South Korea, and flying back non-stop to their bases and on April 8 formations of overseas-based assault planes held a joint ground strike exercise in the skies above Yongwol and Wonju, South Korea, in coordination with fighters of the U.S. Seventh Air Force and the South Korean puppet air force.

The exercises were a war gamble intended to increase the capacity of rapid deployment of overseas-based flying corps in the Korean peninsula and their surprise strike at the northern half of Korea.

On April 7 Pacific-based U.S. fighters and some 150 fighter-bombers, pursuit planes, assault planes and observation planes of the South Korean puppet air force staged an air war exercise day and night under different conditions in the skies above Hoengsong, Chungju and Kunwi, South Korea.

SKNDF Blames U.S. for 'Grave Situation' on Peninsula

SK1004020493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1510 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA)—The chief of the mission of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] (Hanminjon) in Syria in a speech over Voice of Free Lebanon [as received] on March 25 said that the United States was entirely to blame for the grave situation created on the Korean peninsula at present, according to a report.

"It is a flagrant encroachment on and violation of the sovereignty of North Korea and an act without fairness that the International Atomic Energy Agency unreasonably demanded a 'special inspection' at the instigation of the United States," he said.

He demanded that the United States give up the demand for a "special inspection" of North Korea, put a permanent halt to the nuclear threat and the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and totally withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

He urged the South Korean authorities to immediately stop anti-national, anti-peaceful and anti-reunification acts to destroy fellow countrymen by clinging to the coattails of the United States.

He appealed to the Lebanese people to extend warm support and encouragement to the struggle of the Korean people for the peace and reunification of the country.

Daily Denounces U.S. 'Scheme' for Pacific Community

SK1204111093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 12 Apr 93

["Invariable Design To Dominate Asia"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 12 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today hits out at the scheme of the U.S. imperialists to knock into shape a "New Pacific Community" in the Asia-Pacific region.

Recalling that the assistant secretary for East Asia and Pacific of the U.S. State Department some time ago said no place is more vital to the United States than the Asia-Pacific region and claimed that it was time for the U.S. to build a "New Pacific Community", the analyst says:

Attaching greater importance to the Asia-Pacific region after the end of the Cold War, the United States is trying by hook or by crook to gratify its dominationist desire in this region. It set it as the main task of its Asia-Pacific strategy to contain and stifle socialism in Asia as it did in Europe.

The "New Pacific Community" is nothing but a political, economic and military expedient of the United States for realising its dominationist design. And it is domination by military strength on which the United States is putting particular emphasis. This is the very reason why it stated it would set up a "security consultative body" within the "New Pacific Community" and cultivate the "security capacity" in this region by tightening tie-up with Japan, South Korea, etc. and it stages military exercises of various forms, refusing to withdraw its forces from South Korea, Japan and other areas of Asia and Pacific, while loudly advertising "arms cut."

It is strikingly clear that the "New Pacific Community," if it is brought into shape, will serve, above all, as a tool for isolating and stifling our republic and containing it with strength.

The formation of the U.S.-orchestrated "New Pacific Community" in the Asia-Pacific region would mean the emergence of a NATO-type aggressive alliance in this region, notes the commentary, and urges the U.S. imperialists to renounce their dominationist design on this region.

Kim Il-song Receives Director of Koryo Institute in U.S.

SK1004104193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received Cho Tok-chon, director of the Koryo Institute of William Carey University in the United States, on a visit to the homeland.

Present there were officials concerned.

President Kim Il-song conversed with Cho Tok-chon in a cordial atmosphere overflowing with compatriotic feelings.

He entertained Cho Tok-chon to a luncheon.

Leaders, Press View Kim Il-song's 10-Point Program

Vice President Supports Program

SK1204055293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0424 GMT 12 Apr 93

["Vice-President Pak Song-chol Supports 10-point Programme of Great Unity of Whole Nation Advanced by President Kim Il-song"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 12 (KCNA)—Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the DPRK, on April 11 made public a statement welcoming and supporting the "10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country" personally worked out by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

He fully welcomed and supported the "10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country" set forth by the respected leader President Kim Il-song, saying he believes it is a torch of national salvation indicating the only way out for the nation at the present stage and a banner of unity powerfully rousing the whole nation to the struggle for national reunification.

He quoted the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"All those who are concerned for the destiny of the nation, whether they be in the North, or in the South, or overseas, and whether they be communists, or nationalists, haves, or have-nots, atheists, or theists, must unite as one nation, above all, transcending all differences, and pave together the way for national reunification."

Vice-president Pak Song-chol said:

The 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation is a great charter of national unity which enables all the organisations and people who live and act in different systems with differing ideas and ideologies to firmly unite as one under the banner of national reunification.

This programme is a measure for national salvation which is of epochal significance in actively tiding over the grave difficulties created on the Korean peninsula at present and paving the way for the nation.

The danger of a thermonuclear war is growing in our country hour by hour owing to the moves of aggression and interference of the U.S-led imperialist reactionaries.

Our nation is now at a serious crossroads of whether to suffer the disasters of a thermonuclear war on top of the tragedy of division through antagonism and confrontation, while living divided, or whether to unite to defend the dignity of the nation and open the road to reunification. The road for our nation to follow here is the road of unity.

Division and confrontation lead to self-destruction, and only reconciliation and unity will bring about reunification and prosperity. The only way out for our nation is for the 70 million fellow countrymen to join force and decisively smash aggression and interference of outside forces.

The 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation is a banner of reconciliation and unity which illumines the road ahead of our nation under the present-day grave situation and a torch of national salvation which enables the nation to shape its destiny by itself.

The great leader's publication of the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country at the 5th session of the ninth Supreme People's Assembly is a great political event which occasioned an epochal turn in shaping the destiny of the nation. Holding higher the banner of great unity of the whole nation, our fellow countrymen will be able to more forcefully accelerate the reunification in the 1990s, filled with fresh confidence and optimism, surmounting all obstacles in the way of reunification.

Our fellow countrymen are now faced with an honorable task of accelerating the reunification of the country by the concerted efforts of the 70 million fellow countrymen by creditably implementing the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation.

If the North and the South are to be united on the basis of patriotism and the spirit of national independence, it is necessary to keep to the principle of national independence in South Korea, too.

If the present South Korean authorities want to become a "civilian government" aspiring after independence and national unity, different from the dependent military fascist regimes of the past, they must abandon their policy of dependence upon outside forces, manifest their will to get the U.S. Forces withdrawn, stop joint military exercises with foreign troops for good and rid themselves of the "nuclear umbrella" of the United States, as proposed by us at the session of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Our party and the government of our republic will more dynamically fight to achieve the reunification in the 90s through the unity of all parties, groupings and people of all strata in the North, the South and overseas, upholding the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation laid down by the great leader.

Pak Song-chol expressed the hope that all the political parties, organisations and compatriots in South Korea and overseas would approve and actively support the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation advanced by the great leader and rise as one in the struggle to put it into practice.

Paper Notes 'Patriotism' of Article

SK1204111293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1043 GMT 12 Apr 93

["Programme Run Through With Patriotism and Spirit of National Independence"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 12 (KCNA)—"10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country" which was worked out by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a programme run through with patriotism and the spirit of national independence, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying in the ten-point programme:

"All the members of the nation should link their individual destinies with the destiny of the nation, warmly love the nation and unite with one will to defend the independence of the nation as its life and soul."

The programme of great unity of the whole nation advanced by the great leader, above all, tells us how to open the way out for the nation under the grim circumstances in which the danger of war is hanging over our country and the nation's cause of reunification is facing a new challenge, the article says, and goes on:

Our nation is now exposed to the danger of nuclear holocaust on top of the tragedy of division imposed on it for nearly half a century, due to the ever intensified anti-DPRK campaign of the U.S. imperialists and their followers who are vociferous about a "coercive measure" on the pretext of its socalled "nuclear problem".

The programme is a banner of national unity which indicates all the problems with patriotism and the spirit of national independence as their starting-point.

Its character as the programme of patriotism is clearly manifested in the fact that the unity of the whole nation on the basis of patriotism and the spirit of national independence is set as the ideological basis of the great unity.

Patriotism and the spirit of national independence are the common idea of the Korean nation.

The life of every individual as a member of the nation consists in the life of the nation. All the members of the nation should, therefore, link their destinies with the destiny of the nation and unite on the basis of patriotism and the spirit of national independence, the common idea of the nation.

The principle of great unity of the whole nation set out in the programme also stems from patriotism and the spirit of national independence. The interests of the nation are greater and more important beyond compare than those of any class and stratum. All the classes and strata should place the common interests of the nation above anything else, promote co-existence, coprosperity and common interests and subordinate everything to the cause of national reunification. This is the requirement of patriotism and the spirit of national independence and the principle of great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country.

The 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation is a banner of great national unity acceptable to all who love the country and the nation for its fair and aboveboard nature.

Pak Song-chol Speaks at Program Rally

SK1104105193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 11 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang mass rally was held at the Pyongyang indoor stadium Saturday to support and implement the "10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country" published by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

It was attended by Pak Song-chol, Politburo member of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president, Choe Tae-pok and Kim Yong-sun, alternate Politburo members and secretaries of the C.C., the WPK, and other senior officials.

Kang Hyon-su, chief secretary of the Pyongyang municipal party committee and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, and representtives of people of various strata made speeches at the rally.

They said the ten-point programme worked out by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a great charter of national unity which comprehensively expounds the theoretical and practical questions in promoting great unity of the whole nation, a fundamental guarantee for reunifying the country independently and peacefully with our nation's own efforts.

They also described the ten-point programme as a bright beacon of the nation which indicates the most correct way of terminating the disgraceful history in which the fellow countrymen have antagonised and confronted each other due to outside aggression and interference after being divided artificially by outside forces, achieving great national unity and successfully accomplishing the cause of national reunification.

The grim reality today raises to our nation a very important question—whether to remain divided and in antagonism and confrontation with each other so that outside forces may fish in troubled waters or to unite each other, defend the dignity of the nation and achieve the reunification of the country, they noted.

The speakers said the ten-point programme is a most fair political programme acceptable to all Koreans and that all the compatriots in North, South and overseas should turn out as one in the nationwide struggle to reunify the country in the 1990s.

They said that if the South Korean authorities really pursued national independence and wanted great unity of the nation, they must express a clear attitude toward our 4-point demand for renouncing the policy of dependence on outside forces, expressing their will to get U.S. troops withdrawn, putting a final stop to joint military maneuvers with foreign troops and freeing themselves from the "nuclear umbrella" of the United States.

If the South Korean authorities accept this demand of ours, the North and the South will be able to successfully promote North-South dialogue and bring about a radical turn in the struggle for national reunification from an independent stand without outside interference, they stressed.

Public Views Kim Chong-il Defense Commission Election

People, Army Congratulate Kim Chong-il

SK1204050993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 12 (KCNA)—People of all strata and People's Army soldiers of Korea warmly congratulate Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA], upon his election as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

At meetings held at people's army units and in different parts of the country to warmly congratulate Comrade Kim Chong-il on his election as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK was evinced the firm resolve of the Korean People and People's Army soldiers to accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche, remaining loyal to the leadership of comrade supreme commander.

Slogans reading "Let us become rifles and bombs defending Comrade Kim Chong-il, respected supreme commander" and "Let us unite in one mind around Comrade Kim Chong-il, respected supreme commander" were pasted up at meeting places.

The song "Let us defend our supreme commander with arms" was sung loudly by officers and men of the Korean People's Army, public security men, working people and students at the meetings.

The participants in the meeting held at a unit of the KPA to which Comrade Kang Se-nok belongs said that as they hold Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, in high esteem in the van of the revolution, the Korean people and officers and men of the People's Army are making a powerful advance along the road of victory under the revolutionary banner of chuche, the banner of socialism, even under the grim situation in which the imperialists and reactionaries are daily intensifying their moves against the DPRK and socialism.

The meeting of the servicemen of the Ministry of Public Security heard the determination to bring about a revolutionary change in the work of all realms of public security organs, firmly defend the Korean socialism centred on the popular masses and uphold the leadership of respected comrade supreme commander with loyalty.

The participants in the employees' meeting of the Pyongyang textile machine plant said that with the election of the comrade supreme commander of the Korean People's Army as chairman of the National Defence Commission, the Workers' Party and people of Korea have come to have a sure military guarantee of resolutely defending and glorifying the Korean-style socialism centred on the popular masses.

Letters to Comrade Kim Chong-il were adopted at the meeting.

Daily Lauds Kim Chong-il

SK1204104393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 12 Apr 93

["Expression of Korean People's Unquestioned Trust in Great Leader"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 12 (KCNA)—It is an expression of unquestioned trust of the Korean people in their illustrious leader that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, was elected chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the fifth session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, stresses NODONG SINMUN in an editorial today.

The election of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK marks a significant political event worthy of a special record in the history of our republic and revolutionary armed forces progressing under the banner of the chuche idea and a great auspicious event opening a brightest future for our country and people, says the editorial.

It quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"Our people, who have travelled the arduous yet glorious road of revolution and construction hand in hand with the party, trust and follow our party unfailingly with unshakable confidence, a confidence reaffirmed through their own experience, and fully entrust it with their destiny."

The editorial says:

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who has led the party, the state and revolutionary armed forces in the van, shouldering the destiny of the country and the people from his early years, has performed immortal feats which would shine long in the history of the fatherland by wisely leading the historical cause of modelling the whole party, whole society and army on the chuche idea. One cannot measure the exploits performed by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il especially in consolidating the nation's defence power and strengthening and developing our revolutionary armed forces into a match for a hundred ones with his extraordinary wisdom and outstanding commandership.

In the worthwhile process of struggle upholding the leadership of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, our people and officers and men of the People's Army have experienced deep in their hearts the unexcelled greatness of their leader and entrusted their destinies entirely to the party and the leader.

This firm conviction has become all the more unshakable in the midst of the present-day struggle to smash the enemy's moves for another war and safeguard the dignity of socialism creditably.

It is of great historical significance in developing our people's revolutionary struggle onto a new higher stage that Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, was elected chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK at the session of the Supreme People's Assembly. The chuche-oriented cause of army building started and advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is now being realized successfully by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The election of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK enables our people to bravely smash any threat and aggressive moves of imperialism and wage more dynamically the struggle to exalt the socialist cause of chuche.

The election of respected Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK is of weighty significance in consolidating as firm as a rock the singlehearted unity of the whole party, all the people and the army.

The determination of all the party members, working people and officers and men of the People's Army to defend the centre of unity and leadership with their lives has become all the more steadfast at the moment when Comrade Kim Chong-il was elected chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK.

KCNA Reviews 10 April Pyongyang Press

SK1004103493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 10 (KCNA)—Papers here today print a picture of the great leader President Kim Il-song declaring the three-revolution exhibition open and devote first two pages to an account of its inaugural ceremony and pictures showimg it.

Conspicuous in the press is a report that Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, was elected chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the fifth session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK.

Carried in the press is news of the closure of the fifth session of the Ninth SPA of the DPRK.

Appearing in papers are a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song to the seventh summit conference of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and his message of greetings to Mahamane Ousmane upon his election as president of the Republic of Niger.

NODONG SINMUN carries a letter sent to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il by the participants in the international seminar of East European communist and workers' parties on party building.

According to the paper, President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il were respectively awarded the medal of Marinha Grande city, Leiria Province, Portugal.

The paper conveys voices of the South Korean people lauding President Kim Il-song.

Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to different units which set examples in further consolidating the Army-people relations, reports the paper.

Papers carry editorial articles welcoming a government delegation of Equatorial Guinea headed by the prime minister arriving here today.

Figuring large in the press are accounts of the 11th April spring friendship art festival now under way in Pyongyang.

Spotlighted in the press is a statement released by a spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry denouncing the Japanese authorities for its vicious moves to have "sanctions" taken against the DPRK.

NODONG SINMUN reports that a ten-day film show began to celebrate April 15.

The Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea gave receptions for delegations of the Socialist Party of Kazakhstan, the People's Front of Workers, Peasants and Students of Peru and the Romanian Party for New Society and the general secretary of the C.C., the Communist Party of Ecuador, reports the paper.

It is reported in the paper that the delegation of the October 8 Revolutionary Movement of Brazil called on the family of Yi In-mo.

Papers carry a gist of a statement issued by the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) in support of the statement of the DPRK Foreign Ministry denouncing the "resolution" adopted at a meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

NODONG SINMUN runs a commentary rejecting the "resolution" on transferring the DPRK's "nuclear problem" to the United Nations.

Seen in the paper is a signature paper published by 11 political parties and organizations of Pakistan supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula and its denuclearization.

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of China clarified its stand on "nuclear inspection" of the DPRK, reports the paper.

South Korea

Reaction to DPRK Nuclear Treaty Withdrawal Continues

IAEA: DPRK Building Nuclear Facility

SK0904132793 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1020 GMT 9 Apr 93

[By Vienna-based reporter Cha Man-sun]

[Text] A high-level source in the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] revealed that one of two nuclear facilities for which North Korea has refused to accept the IAEA's special inspections is the two-story building with a basement located east of the radiochemical laboratory [pangsa hwahak silhomsil], which is known to be the nuclear reprocessing plant, in the Yongbyon nuclear complex. He added that a high-level IAEA official visited this building last September.

The source said that construction of such an annex is indispensable to building a nuclear reprocessing plant. The source revealed that interpretation of satellite photographs leads to the belief that this two-story building located east of the nuclear reprocessing plant in Yongbyon is a facility for storing nuclear wastes or plutonium.

In particular, this two-story building, which is subject to (?major) nuclear inspection, is believed to be disposing nuclear wastes, and is connected to the nuclear reprocessing plant through an underground tunnel or pipeline.

Another target of special inspections is located on a mountain in Yongbyon, considerably far away from the nuclear reprocessing plant. This is a cement structure similar to the open storage yard for nuclear wastes found in the East European sphere. As a result of interpretation of special satellite photographs, radioactivity leakage from this place was detected. The source emphasized that only when these two sites, inspection of which North Korea is refusing, are inspected, can the overall aspects of North Korea's nuclear development be revealed.

Meanwhile, this structure is believed to be an open storage yard for nuclear wastes, based on the interpretation of satellite photographs. Since the full-scale inspections began, North Korea disguised it as military facilities by planting trees and deploying heavy weapons.

Seoul Considering 'Incentives' for DPRK

SK1104044493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0433 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 11 (YONHAP)—Seoul considers offering North Korea incentives to accepting international nuclear inspection, probably the last warming gesture before the United Nations goes ahead with stringent measures, officials said Sunday. An inter-ministerial working-level meeting Friday discussed possible suggestions to North Korea of how South Korea would respond if Pyongyang rescinded its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and reopened to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspection, the officials said.

The suggestions include downgrading of South Korea-U.S. annual joint military exercise Team Spirit, Washington's guarantee not to use atomic weapons against North Korea, restart of inter-Korean dialogue and concrete economic aid packages, they said. They are likely to be discussed in detail at cabinet minister-level meeting scheduled on Tuesday.

"The next expected step by the U.N. Security Council is a resolution carrying a stronger tone than last week's statement," an official said on condition of anonymity. "Seoul has been trying to decide whether the warming gesture should come before or after the U.N. resolution," he said, "but it is more likely to come beforehand." The United Nations may decide on economic sanctions against North Korea, possibly as quickly as early May, this official said, "if Seoul does offer incentives, they will be the last because there isn't much time left."

Kim Yong-sam on North's 'Isolation'

SK0904142593 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 7 Apr 93 p2

[Text] The government held a meeting of security-related ministers at Chongwadae [presidential residence] on 6 April chaired by President Kim Yong-sam. It discussed plans for dealing with the referral of the North Korean nuclear issue to the UN Security Council. It has decided to intensify its cooperation with other countries to resolve the nuclear issue peacefully.

Chongwaedae spoksman Yi Kyong-chae said: President Kim Yong-sam expressed regret that the North Korean nuclear issue was not resolved by the International Atomic Energy Agency but instead referred to the UN Security Council. He is very concerned about the possible isolation of North Korea from the international community because of the nuclear issue.

Seoul-U.S. Talks To Focus on Issue

SK1204005393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0038 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States hold working-level consultations on North Korea's nuclear problem this week in New York and Washington to discuss offering incentives before stronger action is taken by the U.N. Security Council. Chang Chae-yong, director-general of the Korean Foreign Ministry's American Affairs Bureau, left for Washington via New York on Monday for a week-long visit to contact officials at the United Nations, U.S. State Department, Defense Department and White House.

The Security Council has issued a statement registering concern over North Korea's pullout from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty [NPT]. The Seoul government has been moving toward offering incentives for North Korea to return to the NPT, and Chang's trip is likely to focus on the range of the offers.

Russian Paper: DPRK Producing 1,000-Km Range Missile

SK1004010693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0056 GMT 10 April 93

[Text] Moscow, April 10 (YONHAP)—North Korea may produce a sophisticated surface-to-surface missile (SSM) with a range of 1,000 kilometers at the end of this year, an influential Russian newspaper reported Saturday. The IZVESTIYA, in a dispatch from Beijing, quoted diplomats in the Chinese capital as saying that North Korea was on the verge of developing a missile that could strike Vladivostok, Tokyo, Shanghai or Beijing, not to mention reaching the entire Korean peninsula.

It may give a new bargaining chip to North Korean President Kim Il-song and his son and heir-designate, Kim Chong-il, in negotiations with the United States, which is worried about North Korea's nuclear development program. The United States and Japan are worried about the proliferation of the North Korean missiles, the paper said, noting that the communist country has independently upgraded Soviet-built Scud missiles without any technological assistance.

Many military observers believe the new missile can carry nuclear and chemical warheads, the paper said. Noting that a highly-placed Iranian military delegation visited North Korea recently, the paper said Iran might turn out to be the first buyer of the missile, adding that U.S. Government officials claimed the delegation was trying to purchase 150 missiles in their first deal.

Japan Paper: DPRK Actively Seeking U.S. Talks

SK1104035993 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] TOKYO SHIMBUN, citing Japanese and North Korean sources, reported today that North Korea has decided to carry on active dialogue with the ROK and the United States and has already begun secret contacts with the two countries pursuant to the 10-point program adopted at the recent Supreme People's Assembly. TOKYO SHIMBUN said that North Korea has been making contacts with the ROK through the North-South hotline and Panmunjom and with the United States in the United States and Europe. The paper said that the European trip by Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the North Korean Workers Party of Korea, that began 25 March was aimed at inter-Korean contact and U.S.-North Korean contact. The paper predicted that North Korea will make its line of dialogue clearer between the middle of this month and the middle of next month.

DPRK Keeps Clause To Avoid Joint Ventures

SK0904140693 Seoul YONHAP in English 1113 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—In their recent amendment to the law on joint venture, Pyongyang retained a clause that allows North Korean industries to avoid joint ventures with South Korean concerns. An analysis of the North's joint venture law by the Korea Foreign Trade Association on Friday [9 April] showed that the North Korean law on joint venture, rewritten last October, retained the clause of the original law that allowed the exclusion of South Korean business concerns from those foreign firms allowable to do joint venture in the North.

An official at the Foreign Trade Association said the retaining of the clause may well indicate that the North would not allow South Korean firms to engage in joint-venture businesses which would inevitably entail frequent exchanges and contacts with North Korean business partners. North Korea, instead, seems planning to allow Korean industries to do those businesses like 100-percent investment projects that can be done in free economic and trade zones only, the official said.

In addition, the new joint venture law expressly indicates that the industries of a country that does not recognize the system of North Korea cannot engage in joint ventures in North Korea. A clause of the new law says, "Joint ventures can be undertaken on the principles of equality and reciprocity with the industries, individuals and economic organizations of those countries which respect the state and social systems and sovereignty of the republic," according to the official.

Dailies Analyze Kim Chong-il's Increasing Role

SK1104012593

[Editorial Report] CHOSON ILBO, HANGUK ILBO, TONG-A ILBO, SEOUL SINMUN, KYONGHYANG SINMUN, and HANGYORE SINMUN carry items on 10 April commenting on Kim Chong-il's election as the DPRK National Defense Commission [NDC] chairman.

CHOSON ILBO carries an 800-word article on the subject on page 3. The article relates Kim Chong-il's election as the NDC chairman to his succession to power: "Kim Chong-il's election as the NDC chairman indicates that his succession to power in the military field, in effect, has been completed." To support this explanation, the article refers to an article of the DPRK's revised constitution on the NDC chairmanship: "The old constitution bestows negligible authority on the NDC chairmanship. The NDC was only one of the six commissions under the Central People's Committee [CPC]. The newly revised constitution, however, stipulates that the NDC be separated from the CPC and that the NDC has the authority to command and control the entire Armed Forces. Furthermore, the revised constitution eliminates the article allowing the DPRK president to concurrently hold the Army supreme commandership and the NDC chairmanship."

On the prolonged process of Kim Chong-il's ascension to the chairmanship, the article quotes remarks by a National Unification Board [NUB] official: "It might have been difficult for Kim Il-song to make a hasty action on this because North Korea's military establishment is a peculiar organization consisting of the old, the middle-aged, and the young, and because Kim Chong-il lacks military experience."

On Kim Il-song's transfer of the prerogative of supreme command to Kim Chong-il, the article assumes: "Kim Il-song has reached an advanced age. Therefore, he might have judged that North Korea needs to carry out revolution generation after generation in order to take initiative in dealing with the nuclear issue and that this is the right time to transfer the revolutionary Armed Forces as well from this generation to the next."

The article quotes remarks by a NUB high-ranking official who details two possibilities for future moves regarding the nuclear issue: "Once North Korea formulates a certain policy formula, it tends to maintain the formula for long time. Therefore, North Korea will maintain its existing hard-line policy for some time. If the Western countries, far from giving carrots to North Korea, keeps demanding nuclear inspection, it will make a strong response under the pretense of self-defense. However, if their demands such as permanent suspension of the Team Spirit exercise, a guarantee of fairness by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], and improved relations with the United States and Japan are met properly, North Korea is likely to come to the negotiation table. In the event that things move smoothly, North Korea will propagandize this as Kim Chong-il's achievement and move to the next step for his succession to power."

HANGUK ILBO carries a 1,500-word article on page 2 describing Kim Chong-il's ascension to the NDC chairmanship as a victory over his opponents: "Whether or not Kim Chong-il will ascend to the NDC chairmanship has drawn our attention because conflicts between him and the first revolutionary generation have been reported off and on. Therefore, some regard Kim Chong-il's ascension to the NDC chairmanship as a final victory over his opposition force."

Regarding North Korea's policy toward the South and its external relations, the article says: "The process of Kim Chong-il's succession to power has progressed smoothly, on the whole, according to a prepared scenario. Therefore, chances are very slim that a big change will take place after Kim Chong-il is elected NDC chairman."

On power sharing between Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il, the article says: "A kind of dual power system will continue for some time: Kim Il-song will personally control the reunification issue, while Kim Chong-il will lead the Army and the party."

On whether or not the PRC was aware of this, the article says: "With the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] session at hand, the PRC dropped a strong hint at the possibility of Kim Chong-il's election as NDC chairman."

The article predicts the policy switchover by Kim Chong-il to include a more reasonable policy on the South and external relations and adds: "Forces close to Kim Chong-il consists of technocrats, and the second revolutionary generation, who received a regular education. In the long and middle run, therefore, Kim Chong-il may pursue the switchover to a more reasonable policy on the South and external relations." The article adds: "In the short run, tension is required to make Kim Chong-il's system a fait accompli. Many people feel that we should not hastily expect a change within North Korea."

SEOUL SINMUN carries an 800-word editorial on page 3 on the impact Kim Chong-il's succession to power will have on North-South relations and the Korean peninsula. The editorial notes: "It is known that Kim Chong-il is very bellicose and is a man of unpredictable character. It is also known that he led North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] as well. Unlike Kim Il-song, he is still young and did not experience failure in invading the South on 25 June 1950. These facts give us clues that if international pressures on North Korea are intensified and tension is heightened, he may venture to demonstrate his existence to the North Korean people and the outside world by making a strong response under the pretense of a self-defensive action."

The editorial also raises another possibility: "Currently, a situation in which North Korea cannot turn its back on openness and reform in the long run prevails. Under such a circumstance, Kim Chong-il is likely to attempt a revolutionary change in policy toward the South and in external relations, timed with the official beginning of the Kim Chong-il era."

SEOUL SINMUN carries a 1,100-word article on page 6 predicting that Kim Chong-il's election as NDC chairman will not substantially affect North Korea's internal and external policies. The article adds: "A 10-point program of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country adopted at the SPA session was personally prepared by Kim Il-song. In this manner, Kim Il-song will inevitably and personally handle important issues including reunification as long as he is alive. Meanwhile, Kim Chong-il already took the initiative in recently dealing with external policies, including the withdrawal from the NPT. Therefore, chances are small that Kim Chong-il will abruptly change his policies."

The article puts also forward another possibility: "Kim Chong-il lacks the charisma that Kim Il-song has. In a bid to make up for this weakness and justify his succession to power, he may lead the reinvigoration of the national economy. If this is the case, he may seek a breakthrough for reinvigoration of the economy by establishing diplomatic relations with the United States and Japan and improving North-South relations."

KYONGHYANG SINMUN carries a 1,300-word article on page 3 interpreting the withdrawal from the NPT as a measure for Kim Chong-il to control the Army completely: "North Korea has stressed that Kim Chong-il decided to withdraw from the NPT. This indicates that he made such a decision as part of a strategic move aimed at his complete control of the Army."

In this connection, the article states that NUB Vice Minister Song Yong-tae devaluates the significance of Kim Chong-il's ascension to NDC chairmanship: "Kim Chong-il's prerogative of supreme command was only institutionalized. There will be no change in his policy line."

HANGYORE SINMUN carries a 1,000-word article on page 3 relating Kim Chong-il's ascension to the NDC chairmanship to his succession to the DPRK presidency: "North Korea's 1972 constitution stipulates that the DPRK president, who is supreme commander of the entire Armed Forces and NDC chairman, commands and controls the state's entire Armed Forces. This indicates that the transfer of the prerogative of supreme command itself means the succession to the presidency." Referring to an article of the DPRK constitution revised in 1992 regarding the president's 5-year tenure which coincides with that of the SPA, the article adds: "The year 1995 is likely to be the fork in the road where the prerogative of the party and the state will be officially transferred to Secretary Kim Chong-il."

Beef Talks With U.S. To Open 13 Apr in U.S.

SK1204034093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 12 (YONHAP)—Beef talks between South Korea and the United States in Washington on Tuesday [13 April] and Wednesday will focus on fully liberalizing the Korean beef market before July 1, 1997, setting import quotas after 1993 and improving the simultaneous buying system (SBS). Korea will be represented by Kim Tong-tae, director general of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry's Livestock Bureau, and the U.S. side by Peter Colins, a senior official in charge of Korean Affairs at the United States Trade Representative.

Kim told a news conference before leaving Saturday that the prospects for smooth talks on major issues were dim, noting that there remained much difference between the positions of the two sides. Should the talks turned out to be fruitful, Korea would hold bilateral beef talks with Australia in Seoul on April 21 and 22 and with New Zealand in Wellington on April 26 and 27.

Korea and the United States have held three rounds of beef talks as of February since June 1992, but a tangible agreement on major issues has eluded them. The United States has demanded an annual 20-percent increase in import quota and says that Korea should open its beef market before July 1, 1997. Korea imported 132,000 tons of U.S. beef last year. Washington has also called for the SBS to be conducted in a more autonomous manner between exporters and importers. It has also called for Korea to expand areas in which the SBS could be applied from the current suppliers for hotels, the Korea Cold Storage Co. to department stores and supermarkets.

With regard to this demand, Seoul is expected to emphasize that unconditional complete liberalization of the market is impossible before 1997 in the light of the poor competitiveness of the Korean livestock industry. He would tell the Americans that an import quota will be set at a minimal level in consideration of domestic prices of cattle, and the demand and supply of beef this year, Kim said.

Noting that the import quota for last year was 66,000 tons but actual imports were 132,000 tons, Kim said that this year's quota would inevitably be slashed due to a continuing economic slump and drastic decrease in beef consumption. Kim emphasized that efforts would be made to improve the SBS in a way that helps it better serve its purpose. He said the government would seek measures to get the difference between domestic and import prices to be used for beefing up the livestock promotion fund. Kim urged Korean farmers, especially beef farmers, to recognize the inevitability of market opening and redouble their efforts to improve productivity and turn out quality products.

Seoul Seeks Year-End Settlement

SK1204085693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0845 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea will aim to settle beef and intellectual property rights [IPR] talks with the United States by the end of the year and establish a new channel of across-the-board bilateral trade talks as the presidents' economic initiatives expire in September. Economic ministers, in a meeting presided over by Economic Planning Minister Yi Kyong-sik to review international economic cooperation policy, Monday affirmed the government's opposition to rice market opening, cooperating with Japan, Switzerland and other countries opposing a GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) proposal for tariffs on rice in the Uruguay Round trade talks.

The government will seek to join the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and science-technology committees this year, with an eye to becoming a full member of this club of advanced economies in the latter half of the seventh five-year plan (1993-97). With China, Korea will try to conclude aviation and prevention of double taxation pacts by the end of the year, while promoting construction of an industrial estate for Korean firms in Tianjin. Of Japan, the government will ask that Korean firms be given wider access to projects funded by the 10.7 trillion-yen economic stimulation package.

Envoy to U.S. Comments on Trade Relations

SK1004033293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0151 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea's major diplomatic task is proving to the United States that it is not another Japan in trade matters, Ambassador to Washington Han Sung-su said Saturday. "I don't believe the United States has yet a rooted, comprehensive trade policy," he told reporters. "Its championing of national interest does not necessarily contradict the spirit of free trade."

Han, 57, is an economic brain whose appointment to Washington signals Seoul's emphasis on Korea-U.S. trade relations. A graduate of Yonsei University with degree in political science, Han has taught at Seoul National University and Tokyo University as a visiting professor. He served a single term on the National Assembly and was trade and industry minister for nearly two years from 1988. He enumerated three key tasks on trade issues, starting with the right image-making.

"South Korea escaped a set image that it was another Japan in the 1980s. The United States left out South Korea at the time in listing Priority Foreign Country (PFC)," Han said. "But that image is creeping up again now. We have to prove to the United States that South Korea is not Japan," he said.

The ambassador called on Seoul to make its economic policies clear to Washington, saying that this transparency was the key to preventing and removing elements of friction. Seoul also needed to expand its arena of activities to grass roots, encompassing not just the U.S. administrative branch but the congress, media, labor and local organizations, he said.

Relatively silent on bilateral security matters, Han said that, unlike trade issues, security agendas were not subjects of friction. "I will closely follow instructions from headquarters and build on what my predecessors have done," he said. "It's about time South Korea and the United States graduated from common frictions. My duty is to level up the relations to true partnership for the 21st century," Han said.

U.S. ITC Delays Hearing on Computer Chips

SK1204015693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0043 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 12 (YONHAP)—The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) has granted South Korean semiconductor companies a six-month delay in a hearing on violation of patent rights on computer memory chips to give them more time to prepare their defense. The Korean companies say they are confident of winning the copyright violation suit filed by U.S. Micron Semiconductor Co. last year-end.

The ITC dismissed a request for a quick judgement by Micron and put off its decision to June 20, 1994, from Dec.

20 at the request of Hyundai Electronics Co. and Goldstar Electron Co. Micron charges that Hyundai and Goldstar violated its patents on DRAM (dynamic random access memory) chip technology and asked for a ruling within a year as it is a simple copyright violation case.

But the Korean companies countered that the patents in question concern the manufacturing process, not technology, so they needed more time to prepare their defense. Despite Micron's strong opposition, the American trade body granted the delay early last month.

Although it raises their legal charges, the companies say they have bought enough time to state their defense. Hyundai and Goldstar are expected to join hands to prepare for the ITC preliminary ruling in February next year.

Ministry Grounds F-16 Fighters Pending Probe

SK0904140393 Seoul YONHAP in English 1045 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—The Defense Ministry has grounded all the Air Force F-16 jet fighters pending the determination of the exact cause of the crash of an F-16 on Thursday evening. An F-16 fighter, on a night-time interception training, crashed into a hill near Hwaam-ri, Tongyang-myon, Chungwon-kun, North Chungchong Province, around 8 P.M. thursday.

Capt. Chong Chae-nam, 31, the pilot, was killed and a village woman suffered an injury when struck with an aircraft fragment. A ministry official said on Friday that Thursday's accident seems ascribable to a mechanical problem.

"The grounding of all F-16's is a routine measure normally taken following crashes. The grounding is in part designed to dispel uneasiness among Air Force pilots," the official said, adding that the grounding won't last for more than three days. F-16 is the model the government has chosen for the next generation fighter (FX) program. About 30 F-16's have been introduced since 1986 and 120 more are expected to be brought in by 1997.

Seoul Delays Sending New Envoy to PRC Until May

SK1204091693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0809 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 12 (YONHAP)—Seoul will delay replacement of the South Korean ambassador to Beijing until early May to maintain continuity in its diplomatic efforts with China, government sources said Monday. The decision was made because the government believes China can play an important role in persuading North Korea to retract its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the sources said.

The government announced the appointment of Hwang Pyong-tae, 56, a former ruling Democratic Party National Assemblyman, as Korea's new ambassador to China last Thursday. Hwang replaces No Chae-won, who returned on Sunday night for consultations with the government on preparations for a meeting of the foreign ministers of South Korea and China in Bangkok. The foreign ministers are scheduled to attend a conference of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in the Thai capital next week.

Envoy to PRC Urges 'Equidistant Diplomacy' With U.S.

SK1204091193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0605 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea needs to balance Chinese and American views in dealing with North Korea's nuclear problem for equidistant diplomacy with Beijing and Washington, the new South Korean ambassador to China said Monday. The United States saw the North Korean nuclear problem from a global strategic perspective, like the Nonproliferation Treaty, but China had a regional viewpoint, seeking a nuclear-free Korean peninsula and preventing war, Hwang Pyong-tae told a news conference.

"We have to balance these two perspectives. We have seen issues too much through Western eyes in the past," Hwang said, describing the importance of China's role in terms of North Korea's concerns. "Pyongyang is fearful of being attacked by Seoul, it is fearful of being absorbed by the Southern side in the process of national reunification," he said. "We can relay messages through China to allay these concerns and work toward national reunification."

A Beijing-Seoul summit was likely this year as Jiang Zemin was expected to visit Seoul, he said. Foreign ministers Han Sung-chu of Korea and Qian Qichen of China are expected to discuss a summit date when they meet during a conference of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok next week.

Hwang, 58, got his first job with the Foreign Ministry after passing the civil service exam in 1956. He transferred to the Economic Planning Board in 1962, and climbed up to assistant minister. He studied economics at Seoul National University and has a Ph.D. in political science from the University of California, Berkeley.

Hwang, elected to the National Assembly in 1988, can thank his close ties with President Kim Yong-sam for making him one of the few political appointees among the new crop of ambassadors. He said nordpolitik has two goals—ending the cold war around the Korean peninsula and peacefully resolving Korean issues for national reunification. "The first goal has been achieved," Hwang said, adding that China has a critical role to play in the second stage.

"Beijing supplies more than 90 percent of strategic items like food and fuel to Pyongyang, and it is about the only country in the world that gives North Korea a friendly look," he said. The envoy said that Seoul should "articulate" what so far has been a latent possibility of Seoul-Beijing economic cooperation. "Socialism has its limits in transition from a labor-intensive market to high-technology industry. By providing the high technology, Seoul can seek co-prosperity with Beijing," he said.

Russia To Join Survey on East Sea Nuclear Waste

SK1104050793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0404 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Russia will start a joint survey of the East Sea where Moscow has admitted to throwing tons of nuclear waste during the past 30 years, Foreign Ministry officials said Saturday. The Russian presidential office has responded to a request for a joint survey and asked Korea participate in its own investigation, planned to start in two to three months. Moscow said it would welcome Korea's contribution of experts, equipment, and finance. The cost of the initial survey is estimated at 300 million won (377,000 U.S. dollars).

A Russian white paper on the environment has confirmed that the Soviet Union and Russia tossed more than 144,000 cubic meters of nuclear waste into the East Sea and waters off Kamchatka Bay between 1966 and 1992. Moscow told Seoul the waste was not highly toxic and that it believed the Far East region was not seriously contaminated.

It also said it would have to continue dumping nuclear waste in the seas because it lacks proper facilities on land, but promised to keep within the guidelines of the london dumping convention in the future. The Seoul Government is to open an inter-ministerial meeting early next week to decide on the scope of financing and other material aide for the joint survey.

Russian Technology Sale Scheduled for 31 May-2 Jun

SK1004030893 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 10 Apr 93 p 3

[Text] Scores of Russian-made advanced technologies with high potential of commercialization will go on sale here through an exhibition, beginning late next month. The exhibition of 51 "new technologies of Russia" will be held in the National Science Museum in Taedok Science Town some 170 kilometers south of Seoul from May 31 through June 2, said a senior official of the Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST) which organizes the exhibition jointly with the Russian House, a state association for international scientific and technological cooperation.

The 51 items to be exhibited here include a considerable number of high technologies which the United States and other advanced countries are struggling to develop or commercialize, said Chong Hyong-chin, director of the Korea-Russia Scientific and Technological Cooperation Center affiliated with KIST. Chong concurrently serves as vice president of the state-run institute.

They include a microwave processing of materials and gyrotron technological system, technology of manufacturing parts for small-displacement engines using ceramic and composites, a technological process of high-temperature gas extrusion, and technology of low-temperature diffusion welding of materials. The "Gyrotron Technological System" is intended for high-temperature microwave processing of dielectric and semiconductor materials, that is, sintering and joining of ceramic and composite materials, annealing of dielectric and semiconductor materials, and coating of the surfaces with dielectrics.

The technology of manufacturing parts for small-displacement engines using ceramic and composites now developed by a few Western countries makes possible the reduction of noise, emission of carbon dioxide and fuel consumption, according to an explanatory note of the Russian association. The high-temperature gas extrusion (HTGE) technology is plastic deformation of metals and alloys under high pressure and high temperature conditions in the atmosphere of inert gas.

HTGE technology makes it possible to produce cylinder rods of under 3 mm in diameter from high-speed steel for axial cutting tools (drills, taps, mills and etc.) of small cross-section area, shaped rods of square and hexagonal cross-sections for producing cap keys of small cross-sectional areas, and thin wire of round or shaped sections from various materials and alloys, including brittle ones (chromium, cast iron and etc.) The technology of low-temperature diffusion welding of materials is the process of connecting heterogeneous materials with intermediate packings made of highly active ultra dispersion metal powder and their mixture at low temperature and with small pressing efforts excluding macroplastic deformation of welding parts and their initial electrophysical parameters change.

Technological wall climbing robot with board manipulator and technological changing tool enables gas cutting, surface cleaning and painting of high buildings and structures, and automatic inspection of cracks and of leakage on water and gas reservoir. The technology, among others, can be used in civil engineering and other construction fields right now, Dr. Chong explains.

The Russian technologies on exhibition will be divided into three groups—machinery, new materials and others. Chong said that the 51 items have been selected from among hundreds of technologies which Russia believes have a competitive edge in international markets. In the selection of the technologies, commercializability and repercussion effects on the domestic industry has been taken into consideration, Chong said. He also observed that the forthcoming exhibition will provide momentum for South Koreans to get high technology information and to undertake joint ventures and joint research and development as well as to win the Russian high technologies.

The Russian side will deliver videotaped cassettes and other detailed explanatory notes on the 51 high technologies to the Korea-Russia cooperation center soon so that they may be distributed to domestic businesses, research institutes and other relevant organizations, KIST officials said. Russian scientists and technicians will also explain their technologies to Korean customers during a seminar to be held during the three-day exhibition.

It will also be possible for Korean customers to conclude contracts with the Russian House on the introduction of Russian technologies during and after the exhibition, KIST officials said. The Russian House held a similar exhibition of its technologies in Japan last year.

Machinery:

1. The technology of laser express analysis of the element composition of complex materials;
2. The technology of heat-exchange intensification on the bases of the effect of tornado-type vortex set stream in gas, liquid and their mixtures;
3. Technology and device for microgrinding (in plasticity mode) superprecision workpieces with complicated profile from ceramics, silicon, ferrits, other superhard fragile materials;
4. The technology of electric arc welding and cutting with portable devices;
5. Non-freon technology of natural gas liquefying and fast freezing (up to -70 degrees Celsius) on the basis of vortical freezers;
6. High temperature isothermal press forming technology of glass products;
7. Highly effective technological processes and equipment for development of computerized, automated manufacture of passenger radial tyres (Project AP "Shina");
8. Technology of manufacturing electric double layer capacitors of high energy (supercapacitors) and system on its base;
9. Technological autonomous multi-purpose mobile robot-technical system (R.T.S.);
10. Technology for coating deposition in vacuum on the basis of electric-are planar evaporators and a unit for its realization;
11. Technological wall climbing robot with board technological manipulator;
12. Technology for injection moulding of thread and smooth details of wide application from thermoplastic materials and automatic multitype rotor-conveyor machines for its realization;
13. Technology of high isostatic pressure and high temperature treatment of different materials;
14. Technological mechatronic direct-drive module MRG-1;
15. Technology of low-temperature diffusion welding of materials;
16. Computerized Integrated Manufacturing System (CIM System) for dies and press-molds manufacturing;
17. Technological process of high-temperature gas extrusion;
18. The technology process of high speed cutting of ferrous and non-ferrous metal parts by PCD (polycrystal diamond), PCBN (cubic borone nitride) and ceramic cutting tools;
19. Ecologically-friendly technology of its production of high-efficiency abrasive tool;
20. Technology for control of lense centering during glueing operation;
21. Technology of laser marking of materials;
22. Technology of jet-film filtration and purification of dispersed systems;
23. "Tornado" technology: "Tornado" pheumavortex blasting treatment of inner surfaces funneled workpieces;
24. "Superscan" surface treatment technology;
25. Technology of treatment and inspection of objects using multi-purpose automatic laser complex (MALC);
26. Technology of materials treatment using copper vapour laser (CVL) with small-size power supply.

New Materials:

27. The technology of creating semiconductor sensitive elements with frequency-pulse output signal for various physical values measurements;
28. The technology of creating silicon devices with increased temperature and radiation hardness (Hall sensors on the basis of the new technology);
29. The technology of deposition of HTSC films (High temperature super conductivity) on silicon;
30. Advanced materials and articles technology in Si3N4 ceramics with wide range of application;
31. Technology of manufacturing high-temperature boron nitride ceramics;
32. Technology of producing bands from nanocristall alloys and amorphous alloys from chemical active elements by quick quenching;
33. Technology for the production of sintered filters of granulated titanium alloys;
34. Technology of manufacturing composite forgets for magnetrone spraying of resistive, corrosion- and wear-proof, thermoresistant films using method of self-distributing high-temperature synthesis;
35. Technology and equipment for automatized production of fine rubber powder of the waste of tyre production (rejected tyres), motor car and aircraft tyres with exhausted service life;
36. Resource-saving technology and automated equipment for oligomer tire production;
37. Technology of manufacturing parts for small-displacement engine using composites;
38. Amorphous ribbon, equipment and technology of production;
39. Method of synthesis of monocrystalline diamonds;
40. Microwave processing of materials and gyrotron technological system;
41. Low-temperature technology of vapour deposition coatings from metal-organic compounds for essforms and tools for forming plastics and rubber;
42. New materials, equipment and technology for high-precision non-ferrous rolling production;
43. Technology of manufacturing new abrasives "RUPOL";
44. Technology of crystal growing on the basis of floating zone machine;

45. Technology for the production of mono-domain crystals of lithium niobate LiNbO group for opto- and acoustoelectronic apparatuses, laser and nonlinear optics equipment;
46. Technology of manufacturing carbon-carbon and carbon- graphite materials;
47. The microbial process for production of acrylamide;
48. Technology for obtaining fire-proof foaming polymer materials: SMOG-1 plasticate and OVR-1 painting.

Others:
49. Wide-ribbon loudspeaker "ANGSTROME";
50. Feasibility study of the "resource-saving technology and automated equipment for oligomer tire production";
51. Creation of plasma devices for vacuum plasma processing.

Military Observation Group To Visit Russia

SK1204092493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0717 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea will send a six-member military observation group to Russia in late May or early June to discuss exchanges of military personnel, the defense ministry said Monday. In a daily briefing, a ministry spokesman said the dispatch was in accordance with an agreement reached in November last year to facilitate bilateral exchanges and cooperation in military fields.

Exchanges of military personnel would start as early as 1994, and take the form of sending two or three Korean soldiers to Russian military institutes. He also said the number of foreigners visiting or studying at Korean military institutes or units had increased recently.

This year, 1,087 foreign military personnel from 14 nations, including Britain and the United States, are expected to tour Korean military training and educational institutes. More than 7,000 foreign military figures have visited the Korean military between 1960 and 1993, he revealed. A Thai cadet is learning Korean at Seoul National University before being admitted to the Air Force Academy, he added.

Kim Yong-sam Reiterates Reform Commitment

SK1204092393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0711 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 12 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam has put spurs to his anti-corruption drive, which is already showing signs of flagging in the administration and ruling Democratic Liberal Party. Kim and his aides have taken pains, in the wake of slips by Prime Minister Hwang In-song and DLP Executive Chairman Kim Chong-pil, to reiterate the president's commitment to his reform program.

President Kim declared on Monday that eradication of corruption among officials was one of the most important policies of his government and that the drive would not be slowed or halted. "It is a mistaken view that the anti-corruption drive is shrinking the nation's economy," Kim said, referring to a remark by Hwang on Saturday in talks with Yi Kyong-sik, deputy prime minister and head of the Economic Planning Board, Justice Minister Kim Tu-hui and other cabinet ministers concerned with economic activities.

Hwang had said that the government's anti-corruption drive should not put a brake on the nation's business activities, and that wiping out corruption and restoring law and order were one thing and business was entirely another. Moreover, Hwang said that the administration had no intention of checking on businessmen to see whether they were playing golf or of conducting special tax probes on them, giving them a green light to go ahead and play golf.

Officials at Chongwadae reportedly expressed strong "displeasure" at Hwang's remark. In a statement read by his spokesman, Yi Kyong-chae, President Kim said the eradication of corruption and efforts to revitalize the nation's economy were part of one and the same process. "We have to remove corruption, which has been an obstacle for the nation's economic growth," Kim said.

In this connection, a Chongwadae official said, a view seemed to prevail among some officials and politicians that the official investigation and prosecution of corrupt public servants should be less intense. It was President Kim's thinking that the government should never relax or slacken its efforts to root out corruption, he said.

Commenting on a report that Kim Chong-pil took a group of senior ruling party officials out for a round of golf on easter Sunday, a Chongwadae official said, "Isn't it desirable for politicians to restrain themselves from taking part in such a game at a time when the president himself is leading the country in pain-sharing?" In a recent meeting, Kim Yong-sam was quoted as telling one of his closest aides in the DLP that he would realize "the creation of a new Korea" at any cost and urging the aide to do the same in the ruling party. It appeared that the ruling party was unable to back up Kim's determination and drive for reform, the aide said. "That is the problem," he said.

With regard to a private remark by the DLP's chief policymaker, Kim Chong-ho, that it was desirable to enlarge parliamentary election districts, Chongwadae said that Kim Yong-sam's basic idea was clean politics that did not need money. Chongwadae officials expressed dissatisfaction that DLP leaders were able to think only about changing the size of election districts, and nothing better.

"Why do we have to change the election districts if we can carry out clean and fair elections without spending money?" one of the officials asked. It was not only disappointing but disgusting that party leaders were going out to play golf or thinking only about redistricting when President Kim was staking his political life on reforms and striving to eradicate corruption and revitalize the economy, they said.

Overseas Mission Chiefs Conference Begins 9 Apr

SK0804145993 Seoul YONHAP in English 1031 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP)—The 93 overseas mission chiefs conference, the first ever to take place under the new administration, opens on Friday with the participation of about 70 Korean diplomatic mission chiefs abroad. The mission heads' talks would last through next Wednesday. Participants will meet in sessions on various areas such as political affairs, economy, trade, culture, information and consular affairs.

They will also have separate regional meetings to tackle specific matters like North Korea's nuclear question and environment. The government plans to hand down to the attendees the basic diplomatic policies of the new administration and to discuss with them ways to further bolster the country's diplomatic programs.

DP Begins Investigations of Members' Assets

SK0804070193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0331 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP)—The main opposition Democratic Party [DP] began Thursday to investigate DP lawmakers it suspects of getting rich through real estate speculation or making false reports on their wealth to the party. A fact-finding team led by Rep. Kang Su-rim was sent to Taegu to compare the financial statement made by Rep. Sin Chin-uk (a national constituency lawmaker from Taegu) with his real assets, including schools, and to interview relevant people.

The party will investigate some 10 party members if suspicions against them take shape, an informed party source said. If their statements were false or suspicions are true, they will be subject to disciplinary action. The DP Supreme Council discussed the matter Wednesday and concrete disciplinary measures to take if statements proved to be falsified.

The party is expected to publish an evaluation on the disclosures by its lawmakers early next week and will consider taking actions similar to those taken by the government and the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, the source said. Sin reported assets of 1.69 billion won (2.15 million U.S. dollars) to the party, and in light of his vast real estate holdings the figure is thought to be grossly understated. Reps. Kang Hui-chan, Yi Kyong-chae and Yi Tong-kun are suspected of failing to register assets correctly with the party.

Burma

Convention Work Committee Selects 15 Chapters

BK0904142193 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1130 GMT 7 Apr 93

[Speech by Chief Justice U Aung Toe, chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, at the National Convention Plenary Session held at the President's House Compound on Ahlone Road in Rangoon on 7 April—recorded]

[Excerpts] Mr. Chairman: There are only five chapter headings that remain different. They are: the head of state, the legislature, the executive branch, emergency provisions, and transitional period provisions. The differences concerned three political parties and one delegate group. The political parties are: the National League for Democracy [NLD], the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy [SNLD], and the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party [SSKDP]; the delegate group is the group representing elected representatives. I had requested the delegates from the NLD, the SNLD, and the SSKDP, and the group representing elected representatives that if they wanted to present their suggestions on the head of state, the legislature, the executive branch, emergency provisions, and transitional period provisions they may do so by combining and analyzing suggestions made by the members of the Panel of Chairmen and the prevailing situation for prescribing the chapter headings. They should also inform the National Convention Convening Work Committee [NCCWC] in writing on whether changes are to be made to the suggestions and if there are any, then explanation should be provided on how the changes should be applied.

Mr. Chairman, in accordance with my request, the NLD, its elected representatives, and two independent representatives presented their views on 4 April. In their reply, they thanked the NCCWC chairman for giving an explicit explanation and stated they had presented their suggestions in a constructive manner after careful consideration and that there was nothing to change. The SSKDP, which also replied on 4 April, noted that there was nothing to alter in their suggestions according to the NCCWC chairman's request because the chapter headings suggested are ones which are appropriate for a genuine democratic system. Moreover, they are in line with the six national convention objectives and the three cardinal causes. The SNLD, which presented their views on 5 April, replied that in accordance with the NCCWC chairman's request the SNLD executive committee members and elected representatives, after thorough discussions, decided there was nothing to change on the suggestions presented on 3 April.

Mr. Chairman, the delegates from the elected representatives group presented two suggestion papers. One paper was presented by elected representatives from the NLD, and independents U Hla Maung from Kya-In Seikkyi constituency-1, and U Tun Hlaing from Bahan constituency-1, while the other paper was presented by elected representatives from the SNLD, the National Unity Party [NUP], the Union Pa-O National Organization [UPNO], the SSKDP, the Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organiozation [MKNSO], and independents Dr. Hmu Tang from Thangtlang constituency, U Khin Maung Cho from Dimawhso constituency-1, U Htaung Kho Htan from Tamu constituency, U Tun Kyaw from Namhsan constituency, and U Aung Thein from Ywangan constituency. The elected representatives from the NLD, and independents U Hla Maung from Kya-In Seikkyi constituency-1 and U Tun Hlaing from Bahan constituency-1, presented their paper without changing their previous suggestions. From among the second group, the delegates from NUP replied separately on 5 April stating that circumstances have made them reply separately and express strong support for NUP Secretary General U Tun Yee's report of 3 April 1993. The delegates from the other four parties—the SNLD, the UPNO, the SSKDP, and the MKNSO and three independents—Dr. Hmu Tang from Thangtlang constituency, U Htaung Kho Htan from Tamu constituency, and U Aung Thein from Ywangan constituency, explained that their paper has been sincerely presented with respect to the national convention objectives and for the betterment of the country. They presented their reply on 4 April, expressing no desire to change their suggestions as presented on 3 April. The suggestions of the other two independents—U Khin Maung Cho from Dimawhso constituency-1 and U Tun Kyaw from Namhsan constituency—remain the same since they are on leave.

Mr. Chairman, the final situation on prescribing the chapter headings to be included in the new national constitution can be summarized because of these replies by the three political parties and one delegate group. Seven political parties, some elected representatives, and six delegate groups agreed upon 15 topics—1. Basic principles; 2. The state structure; 3. The head of state; 4. The legislature; 5. The executive branch; 6. The judiciary; 7. The defense services; 8. The fundamental rights and duties of citizens; 9. The electoral system; 10. Political parties; 11. The emergency provisions; 12. Amendment of the constitution; 13. The state flag, the state emblem, the national anthem, and the state capital; 14. Transitional period provisions; and 15. General provisions; —which should be prescribed as chapter headings while the preamble and definitions, though they should not be considered as chapter headings, should be both considered as appropriate topics. [passage omitted]

Mr. Chairman, summarizing my presentations, seven out of 10 political parties—the NUP, the UPNO, the MKNSO, the LNDP, the Union Karen League [UKL], the Kokang Democracy and Unity Party [KDUP], and the Wa National Development Party [WNDP]; delegates from the NUP who are in the elected representatives group: and the six delegate groups—the nationalities, peasantry, workers, technocrats and intelligentsia, public service personnel, and other special invitees—have agreed on the 15 topics mentioned above. [passage omitted]

The NCCWC will put on record the suggestions presented by all eight delegate groups, including the political parties delegate group.

Mr. Chairman and esteemed national convention delegates, the NCCWC, in accordance with Subsection I, Section 29 of the National Convention Convening Procedures, will continue its necessary work in order to prescribe the chapter headings. It will carry on working with the 15 chapter headings agreed upon by the seven political parties of the political parties delegate group and six delegate groups. These 15 chapter headings are prescribed solely for the purpose of chapter-by-chapter discussion. [passage omitted]

Fisheries Minister Leaves for U.S.

BK1204065493 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] A delegation led by Brigadier General Maung Maung, minister of livestock breeding and fisheries, left Yangon [Rangoon] by air today for the United States to observe marine industry in the U.S., to enable expansion of marine industry in Myanmar [Burma], to promote export, and to observe and hold talks on development of marine industry at the invitation of Miss (Marian Marshall-Segal), chairman of the U.S. (Marian Marshall Associate International Limited), MMAI.

The delegation was seen off at the Yangon Airport by Lieutenant General Kyaw Min, minister of mines; U Than Shwe, minister of industry-2; departmental officials from the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries and the Ministry of Agriculture; and family members.

Members of the delegation are: U Kyi Maung Myint, director general of the Department of Planning and Statistics of the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries; U Kyaw Lay, director general of the Department of Fisheries; Colonel Sein Hmat, managing director of the Myanmar Fisheries Enterprise; Dr. Mya Maung, managing director of the Myanmar Agriculture Enterprise of the Ministry of Agriculture; Lt. Gen. Kyaw Thein, general staff officer grade one of the Ministry of Defense; Captain Win Maung, personal aide of the minister.

Two Information Ministry Dailies Renamed

BK0904074893 Rangoon Radio Burma in English 0700 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] The LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN daily and the WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, will appear in new names commencing from Myanmar [Burmese] New Year's day, the 17th of April. The LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN daily will be known as the MYANMAR ALIN daily and the WORKING PEOPLE's DAILY as THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister Considers 'Beefing Up' UNTAC Contingent

BK1004133893 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0909 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 10 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia will consider beefing up its contingent serving with the United Nations peacekeeping operation in Cambodia with more defensive equipment if the situation there gets worse, Defence Minister Mohamed Najib Razak said Saturday.

He said: They are now peacekeeping troops, but if the situation gets worse we will possibly get an advisory from the UN for additional equipment and so on.

The 850-strong Malaysian battalion has been given orders to be ready for any eventuality in the run up to next month's UN-supervised election, he told reporters here.

He said troops serving in field camps had already strengthened their underground bunkers and other defensive positions.

Malaysian troops are deployed in the northwestern province of Battambang, scene of heavy fighting between Khmer Rouge and government troops in recent months.

A Malaysian-manned outpost outside the provincial capital, Battambang, came under artillery fire in December last year.

Last week, Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan warned of more violence when he said they would block the election.

The Khmer Rouge have also been blamed for the murders of six UN personnel in the last two weeks, one of them a Japanese electoral officer who was detained and shot in central Kompong Thom Province on Thursday.

The total number of Malaysian security forces in Cambodia is about 1,100 men, including the 850-strong 1st Battalion of the Royal Malaysian Ranger Regiment and other support and administrative units.

Najib said the phased deployment of men from the 11th Battalion, Royal Malay Regiment, to replace the Ranger Batallion which began recently would be completed in June.

Malaysia was committed to the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) which is overseeing the peace process, officially began there on March 15 last year. [sentence as received]

The Khmer Rouge, one of the four Cambodian factions which signed the 1991 Paris peace accords, had isolated themselves by not taking part in the peace process, he added.

Malaysia and all its ASEAN partners had struggled for a comprehensive and political settlement to the decades-old Cambodian conflict, he said, adding that the UN-supervised election would be one of the fairest in the world.

Daily Views Cambodian Polls, Violence

BK1104095693 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 9 Apr 93 p 12

[Editorial: "A fresh start or old nightmare?"]

[Text] Given the bloody recent history of Cambodia, the campaign for elections on May 23-25 which has just commenced can be considered historic. It marks the first time in three decades that a multi-party election is being held in the country.

On the ground, however, there is little reason for celebration. The Khmer Rouge has condemned the election and has refused to rule out violence during the campaign. This attitude cannot be taken lightly for the faction's murderous record is a cause for concern.

During its rule of Cambodia in 1975-78, it committed genocide against more than a million Cambodians and after it jointly signed the Paris peace accord in October 1991 with the other warring factions, it has been consistent in putting up as many obstacles as possible against its implementation.

It showed its true colours soon enough when it refused to disarm under the supervision of the United Nations, as provided for under the accord, although the others involved in the dispute went along with it.

Next, it refused permission to all citizens in the territory it controls to register for the election and it started an intimidation campaign against UN personnel by kidnapping them though it later released them.

This harassment has taken a violent turn and five UN peacekeepers have lost their lives in the past ten days.

Viewed against such a background, its refusal to rule out violence during the election campaign is sinister. It looks as though the Khmer Rouge cannot shed its violent past and is still not ready to join the community of nations.

This defiant stance does not bode well for the Cambodians as well as the United Nations which has been manfully trying to bring some semblance of order out of anarchy.

As the most powerful and disciplined among the warring factions, the Khmer Rouge's capacity for mischief cannot be underestimated. Its adamant stand rules out any accommodation and the only viable route out for the Cambodians would be to stand firm against it.

They should not be intimidated. They must display solidarity and come May 23, every eligible Cambodian must cast his precious vote. Even more important, they must ensure that a strong government is elected.

In the event of a showdown with the Khmer Rouge once the UN peacekeeping force leaves, which appears to be more than a possibility, only a strong government would stand a chance against it.

For the UN, the mission in Cambodia cannot be a happy experience by any measure. Although several precedents were established in terms of cost, at 5 billion ringgit, and the number of personnel involved, 22,000, there is very little to show for these massive efforts.

It needs to rethink its so-called peacekeeping role. Should its forces be allowed to shoot back when fired upon? What are the ramifications for this change in policy?

Obviously the Khmer Rouge's attitude has raised a host of questions as well as a cloud over the future of Cambodia.

Only the Cambodians can determine whether May 23 will be the dawn of a new day or the evoking of an old nightmare and whether they will allow the Khmer Rouge to hold them to ransom.

Antiroyalists Defy Police Ban, Stage Rally

BK1004062493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0559 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Kota Baru, Malaysia, April 10 (AFP)—Malaysian riot police Saturday moved in when about 1,000 demonstrators defied police orders and protested near the palace of the ruler of eastern Kelantan state, against what they said was his involvement in politics. The demonstrators, claiming to represent non-governmental organisations in the state, gathered outside the headquarters of the Kelantan United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), 200 metres (yards) from the palace of Sultan Ismail Petra, despite an earlier police order to cancel the rally.

Police of opposition-led Kelantan state had earlier rejected a permit for the government-sanctioned rally, which was to have been participated by 10,000 so-called anti-royalists, citing security reasons. About 500 riot police personnel, armed with tear gas, formed a barricade between the anti-royalists and some 5,000 onlookers, who according to officials included members of the fundamentalist Malaysian Islamic Party (PAS), which rules Kelantan. Police were at noon awaiting orders to disperse the crowd.

Kelantan 'Satisfied' With Police

BK1004135693 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] The Kelantan Government is satisfied with the police's success in controlling a group of people who staged a rally to protest the Kelantan sultan's involvement in politics and the administration in the state. Kelantan Chief Minister Haji Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat said the police employed the psychology in handling the matter. Speaking to newsmen at his office in Kota Baharu, he said the police had acted wisely by rejecting a permit for the rally because it could endanger public security and tranquility.

[AFP from Kota Baru, Malaysia, at 1007 GMT adds the following:

Malaysian riot police Saturday arrested four people before dispersing some 1,000 anti-royalists after a six-hour demonstration near the palace of the ruler of eastern Kelantan state. Calling for the immediate release of the four detainees picked up after scuffling with police, one of the demonstrators, who claimed to be the spokesman for some 300,000 NGO members in the state, said the protestors would be back for a "second round." "We have made our mark. This is our first round, we will be back for a second," Che Johan Che Pah told reporters at the scene.

Police of opposition-led Kelantan state had earlier cited security reasons for rejecting a permit for the rally. Political analysts believed that the rally was engineered by certain federal leaders to gain political mileage. Helicopers were hovering above the scene of the demonstration to help in security surveillance. The crowd finally dispersed after police, in an attempt to defuse tension, allowed several of the protestors to drop at the palace gate an open memorandum "advising the ruler to keep out of politics." Palace officials refused to touch it.

The demonstrators were earlier holding banners and placards denouncing the sultan "for being made use of by PAS to fan anti-federal sentiments." "We want Tengku Ibrahim as sultan, down with Ismail," the demonstrators shouted, referrring to the ruler's 37-year old cousin, Tengku Ibrahim Petra, who on Thursday officially staked his claim to the Kelantan crown worn for the past 13 years by Sultan Ismail.

Sultan Ismail, reportedly a descendant of a commoner, is a nephew and political supporter of Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, a former minister and political arch-rival of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad. Mahathir, meanwhile, returning from an eight-day overseas visit, told reporters in Kuala Lumpur that Tengku Ibrahim had the right to lay claim to the Kelantan throne. "That is his right ... but the claim must be made through proper channels," Mahathir said, while not ruling out the possibility of the claim being made to the Special Court set up with the consent of Malaysia's nine hereditary rulers to try their errant brothers. The Special Court was set up following constitutional changes made last month to strip the nine rajas and sultans of their legal immunity.]

Kelantan State Vows To Defend Sultan

BK1104151393 Hong Kong AFP in English 0706 GMT 11 Apr 93

[By Barani Krishnaan]

[Text] Kota Baru, Malaysia, April 11 (AFP)—The ruling party of Malaysia's opposition-led state of Kelantan Sunday pledged to defend its hereditary ruler and his throne after he was publicly denounced and his crown challenged by a relative. The fundamentalist Malaysian Islamic Party (PAS), which rules Kelantan, at the state legislative assembly, passed a vote of confidence in Sultan Ismail Petra, and pledged to fight tooth and nail to thwart all attempts to topple him.

"We accept Ismail as our sultan, we recognise only him as the legitimate ruler and no one else," Nik Aziz Nik Mat, chief minister and PAS leader of Kelantan said. The vote came a day after some 1,000 so-called anti-royalists rallied outside Ismail's palace in defiance of police orders, denounced him and censured him for his alleged involvement in politics.

About 500 riot police armed with tear gas had to be deployed to control the tension-charged crowd which demonstrated outside the palace for almost seven hours before being dispersed by police. Political sources said about 10 protestors were detained after scuffling with police officials, who declined to confirm the arrests. Police had earlier rejected a permit for the rally, citing security reasons.

The crowd also pledged support for Tengku Ibrahim Petra, a cousin of Sultan Ismail, who was staking his claim to the crown the ruler has worn for 13 years. Federal leaders reportedly claimed Ismail was a descendant of a commoner. PAS officials alleged that the protests were engineered by federal leaders in an attempt to overthrow Ismail, a nephew of former cabinet minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, who is a political arch-rival of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad.

The officials charged that the protestors were associated to Mahathir's United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), which, they said, was "hell bent in overthrowing us and Sultan Ismail." Malaysia's nine hereditary sultans and rajas enjoyed unlimited powers and were virtually above the law until Mahathir moved last year to rewrite the Constitution to remove their immunity from prosecution.

Mahathir had suggested that the dispute over the throne be referred to a special court set up to try rulers under the rewritten Constitution. Ismail had joined several dissident rulers in rejecting the amendments and continued to dispute their legality after they became law last month with the reported consent of all rulers.

Political analysts said his defiance had intensified the private war between Ismail and Mahathir, raging since the ruler allegedly helped PAS wrest control of Kelantan from UMNO in the 1990 general election. "This is another one of Mahathir's manipulations' of the country's sultans. He wants a puppet in the Kelantan palace... to dance to his tune and fight PAS," said Rozali Isohak, the state's deputy chief minister.

Nik Aziz said Ibrahim was historically ineligible for the crown as his father had given up his line's claim to the throne to his brother—Ismail's father—who ruled Kelantan before Ismail. "This was agreed by the sultanate decades ago, and there is no reason for us to believe othewise," Nik Aziz said.

Mahathir Returns, Comments on Sabah Coalition

BK1004080493 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said today the Party Bersatu Sabah [Sabah United Party] and the USNO [United Sabah National Organization] coalition government will not last long. He said USNO President Datuk Amir Kahar Tun Datuk Mustapha, who was only appointed state agriculture and fisheries minister, appeared not to have been given the post he aspired in the state cabinet. This was Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir's first comment on the coalition government formed last Wednesday in Sabah.

He was speaking to reporters on his return to Kuala Lumpur from Jeddah accompanied by his wife after performing the umrah [minor pilgrimage] following the eight-day visit to Uzbekistan and Iran. He described his visits to the two countries as very successful. Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir, who is Barisan Nasional [National Front] chairman, said it was up to the Barisan Supreme Council to decide whether to expel USNO. USNO is a component member of the Barisan Nasional, which governs Malaysia.

Singapore

Premier: Lee Hsien Loong Still Successor Choice

BK1104144493 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong, says Brigadier General Lee Hsien Loong is still his choice as successor. Speaking to reporters after his community visit to Punggol, Mr. Goh said Gen. Lee had started to attend cabinet meetings and is looking into economic policies. But Mr. Goh wants to ensure that Gen. Lee has as much time as possible over the next few years to recover from his (?chemo) therapy. Gen. Lee said that given maximum chances of not having the cancer come back. [sentence as heard]

When Mr. Goh visits China from next week, Mr. Ong Teng Cheong will act as prime minister. [passage omitted]

Paper Views European Interest in Arms Industry

BK1104112093 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 10 Apr 93 p 1

[By Felix Soh]

[Text] In a reversal of roles, some European countries are now seeking joint licensing of a Singapore-developed weapon.

Previously, it was the republic which would approach Western arms manufacturers for such a deal.

The new development is testimony to the coming of age of Chartered Industries of Singapore (CIS), one of the world's top 10 small-arms producers.

The Singapore-developed weapon that has caught the eye of the Europeans is CIS's current "star" product—the 40 mm automatic grenade launcher (40AGL).

Dubbed the "infantry's own artillery", it automatically launches grenade projectiles up to 2,000 meters to provide infantry soldiers with the devastating and saturated firepower hitherto achievable only with the big guns from artillery units.

There are only two other countries which produce automatic grenade launchers similar to the 40AGL—the American MK 19 and the Spanish Santa Barbara—but the Singapore weapon is rated the best by arms experts.

It has been making waves in overseas demonstrations and international arms shows, most recently at the International Defence Exhibition 93 in Abu Dhabi.

Although demand for military hardware has declined with the end of the Cold War, there is however demand for conventional weapons because of continued tension and uncertainties in many parts of the world.

Said CIS President Lai Chun Loong: "We have a good product in the 40AGL which has received a lot of attention during demonstrations in the Middle East and Asia. We have also been approached by European companies to have joint licensing of the product."

Given the confidential nature of the arms business, details were not available for publication but the achievement means that CIS, which also produces the versatile Ultimax 100 light machine gun and the SR88A assault rifle, has succeeded in developing indigenous products of world standards.

"Rather than make the weapons themselves, the Europeans find that CIS products meet their needs" Mr. Lai said. "We are getting to be a name in the international market and are accepted even by the industrialised countries."

The 40AGL has the edge because "we have better features than our rivals".

"We are also very competitive in price. More importantly, we can supply a total solution because we provide the whole family of products—from the gun to the mounts to the ammunition."

He observed: "In the world today, no single company offers such a complete system."

CIS is already looking to the future. The company, which spends 6 percent of its turnover on research and development, is developing new products like improved conventional ammunition which have longer ranges, better accuracy, and more lethality.

On external growth, CIS acquired a 29 percent stake in the US-registered ordnance manufacturer Astra Holdings Corporation (AHC) last December.

AHC employs 1,200 people and has two subsidiaries, Accudyne and Kilgore. The former produces electronic and mechanical fuses for artillery and mortar ammunition while Kilgore is the foremost supplier of large aircraft flares.

Meanwhile, two other CIS products making their mark on the international arms market are the 52 Calibre Howitzer, which has a range of 40 km and the Advanced Compact Thermal Imaging System (Actis), which is capable of detecting targets hidden behind smokescreens, physical camouflage, and even natural vegetation.

Said Mr. Lai: "Already some foreign countries have expressed interest in the 52 Calibre, which is undergoing trials and should be ready for delivery later this year."

Cambodia

Akashi: Khmer Rouge Moving Toward 'Outlaw Status'

BK1004040293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0339 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 10 (AFP)—The head of the U.N. peacekeeping operation in Cambodia took his toughest line yet against the Khmer Rouge, warning them of isolation "and even worse" if they disrupt U.N. elections in May. Yasushi Akashi, speaking to Cambodian faction leaders including Khmer Rouge nominal leader Khieu Samphan, said he was giving them "a solemn warning ... that the party and its leaders will be held directly responsible for all the attacks it has made against UNTAC," the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia.

The Khmer Rouge have been blamed in the murders of six U.N. personnel in the last two weeks, including a Japanese electoral officer who was detained and then shot dead in central Kompong Thom Province Thursday. Akashi said statements by the Khmer Rouge denouncing the electoral process as a rubber-stamping of what they call the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia. Vietnam invaded to oust the Khmer Rouge from power in 1979, but says all its troops withdrew 10 years later.

"In acting in this manner, (the Khmer Rouge) risks stripping itself of the legitimacy it gained in signing the Paris agreement and has taken a dangerous step towards outlaw status," Akashi said. The 1991 Paris agreements formally end Cambodia's civil war and empower UNTAC to hold elections in May for a new government.

"There should be no more sanctions for that party and no more chances," Akashi said, urging the Khmer Rouge to allow the electoral process to go forward. "For if that party chooses to disrupt the elections with violence, it is choosing condemnation, isolation and even worse," he said. "It will also fail because the elections must and will take place. Let it make its choice with care."

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the chairman of the Supreme National Council (SNC), told its members that they should do everything possible to provide security for UNTAC personnel and stop killing innocent Cambodian people. "There is absolutely no justification for using violence," the prince said. "The Cambodian leaders must stop the violence once and for all.

Says Khmer Rouge 'Sabotaging' Polls

OW1004061693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0540 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 10 KYODO—The head of the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Cambodia accused the Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction by name on Saturday of sabotaging a Cambodian general election to be held in May. Yasushi Akashi, head of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), hurled the accusation in a speech at a meeting of Cambodia's national reconciliation body, the Supreme National Council (SNC), to which all four feuding parties are represented.

The SNC was convened mainly to discuss safety measures for U.N. volunteers in the wake of the killing of a Japanese volunteer and a Cambodian interpreter two days before. The UNTAC has suspected soldiers of the Khmer Rouge, one of four factions comprising the SNC, killed Atsuhito Nakata, 25, and his Cambodian interpreter on Thursday after stopping their car outside the provincial capital of Kompon Thom, north of Phnom Penh.

"The Democratic Kampuchea (Khmer Rouge) is trying to block the election," Akashi said in his opening address at the SNC meeting. He said the Khmer Rouge is directly responsible for the killings of UNTAC members and Cambodian residents of Vietnamese origin over the last months. Akashi said no faction has right to block the election to be held May 23-25. He expressed condolences to the bereaved families of Nakata and the interpreter, saying they gave their life for peace in Cambodia.

Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, who is an SNC member, rebuffed the accusation. "It is dangerous (for you) to continue to accuse the Democratic Kampuchea," Khieu Samphan said. Cambodia's 20 political parties started campaigns Wednesday for the May general election aimed at forming a legislature which will draft the nation's new constitution.

But the Khmer Rouge faction has declared that it is boycotting the election. The Khmer Rouge has refused to disarm itself, saying Vietnamese troops still remain in Cambodia.

UNTAC Signs Election Security Pact With Factions

BK1204104293 Hong Kong AFP in English 1017 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] April 12 (AFP)—The United Nations said Monday that Khmer Rouge and Phnom Penh government forces have stepped up attacks against each other in recent days. The news came as the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) said it had signed an agreement with the Cambodian factions, excluding the Khmer Rouge, to assure security during the upcoming elections, U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said.

The agreement is "designed to ensure the safe conduct of the election and their neutrality," Falt said. "The Khmer Rouge are concentrating their troops and stockpiling ammunitions," Phnom Penh government spokesman Khieu Kanharith said.

"We are sure the Khmer Rouge will launch some attack and cause disruption, but we are confident the elections can go ahead". Khieu Kanharith said the Phnom Penh government had formed an alliance with 13 of the 20 political parties contesting the May elections, to formulate a joint platform. "This is a kind of agreement between political factions, It doesn't mean they [word indistinct] their identities or that we will campaign for them," he said.

Meanwhile Indonesian members of the U.N. peacekeeping forces were detained for several hours by Khmer Rouge guerrillas who took away their weapons Sunday in Kompong Thom Province, a U.N. source said. No details were available, but the Indonesian battalion were later able to retrieve their stolen guns.

The fighting between the government and the Khmer Rouge has been confined primarily to traditionally troubled areas in central Cambodia, including Siem Reap and Kompong Thom, Falt said. "Over the past few days there has been an increase in fighting between the NADK (National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, or Khmer Rouge) and CPAF (Cambodian People's Armed Forces: government troops) at the well-established trouble spots."

"This is a slight increase," Falt said. "It's very difficult to establish if it constitutes anything." On Friday, Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked a government position 40 kilometers (25 miles) northwest of Siem Reap, the tourist town which is home to the famous Angkor temples symbolising Khmer civilisation, Falt said.

Phnom Penh government soldiers in Siem Reap last week, unhappy at the lack of pay, looted the town's central market, killing two Cambodians, U.N. officials said. The United States Government recently issued a travel advisory warning Americans against visiting Angkor due to instability.

In the normally tranquil southern Province of Kampot the Khmer Rouge launched an attack against government forces last week in response to encroachment on territory they control, U.N. military sources said. Falt said the government repelled the attack, but Khieu Kanharith said the Army was later forced to abandon the position. Several government soldiers and Khmer Rouge guerrillas were wounded in the attack, and more than 140 rounds of mortar fire were counted on Thursday night alone, sources saaid.

SOC 'Has No Intention' of Expelling Vietnamese

BK1004034293 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0420 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh 9 Apr (SPK)—"Despite difficulties caused by the massive massacres by the Khmer Rouge of Cambodian civilians, Vietnamese nationals, and UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] staff members, we remain convinced that the general elections will take place as scheduled with support from the international community and UNTAC," said Chea Sim at a meeting in Phnom Penh with Vu Khoan, special envoy of SRV Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet.

Chea Sim reaffirmed that the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the State of Cambodia [SOC] Government would further strengthen the relations of friendship and solidarity between Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos.

For his part, Vu Khoan pointed out that the recent massive massacres by the Khmer Rouge of the Vietnamese residents in Cambodia constitute an instigation of ethnic hatred between the two nations, thus causing the situation in Cambodia to become more and more difficult.

The Vietnamese envoy thanked Cambodian leaders for their condemnation of the Khmer Rouge massacres, which, he said, constitute a serious threat to the Vietnamese living in Cambodia.

Vu Khoan expressed hope that the CPP and the SOC Government would do their best to make the Vietnamese nationals' livelihood return to normal.

Vu Khoan was also received by Hun Sen, chairman of the SOC Council of Ministers, during his stay in Cambodia. At the meeting where Tran Huy Chuong, SRV ambassador to the SNC, was present, Hun Sen, who is also the vice chairman of the CPP, mainly said: "The SOC has no intention whatsoever of expelling the Vietnamese residents to their home country. The state will do its utmost to allow the Vietnamese and Chinese as well as UNTAC personnel to live peacefully in Cambodia."

SRV Envoy Asks for Measures To Defend Vietnamese

BK1004041093 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1123 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh 9 Apr (SPK)—Vu Khoan, Vietnamese deputy foreign minister and special envoy of

SRV Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, said on 6 April that his visit to Cambodia was aimed at settling the issue of the massive massacre of Vietnamese nationals living in the country.

At a news conference prior to his departure from Cambodia, Vu Khoan said he had requested Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, and the State of Cambodia Government to take effective measures to defend the Vietnamese population, who, he said, are entitled to enjoy the rights as citizens.

He underlined Vietnam's constant support for the national reconciliation policy and efforts in the search for peace in Cambodia, especially the implementation of the Paris peace accord that aims at turning Cambodia into a peaceful, independent, nonaligned, and prosperous country, thereby contributing to the establishment of stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

SNC Meets, Warns Khmer Rouge About Violence

BK1004140193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] A meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] was held on 10 April at Damnak Chan Throne in the Royal Palace under the chairmanship of the prince head of state and chairman of the SNC; and His Excellency Yasushi Akashi, head of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia].

To begin the meeting, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk expressed regret over the deaths of Cambodian and Vietnamese residents and noble members of UNTAC and joined in mourning with the bereaved families and UNTAC.

The prince appealed to heads of all parties and Armed Forces to end immediately all violent acts under whatever pretext. At the same time, the prince strongly condemned all violent acts and called for resolving problems through peaceful negotiations for the sake of the Cambodian nation and motherland.

Concerning the first item on the agenda dealing with the issue of security and safety in the electoral process, Akashi stressed that the Khmer Rouge's rejection and past incidents harming the people and the democratic process seemed to be closely linked.

Akashi noted that no party has the right to obstruct the election because the Cambodian people have already expressed their will and aspiration through their registration in large numbers. Therefore, UNTAC will definitely hold the election in May 1993 without any delays. UNTAC will deploy its military component to the maximum in the countryside in order to protect the election and call on local authorities to cooperate in this defense work.

Akashi solemnly warned the Khmer Rouge that it would be held directly responsible for all the attacks it makes against UNTAC, and the shooting and killing of innocent Cambodians and those speaking Vietnamese. This faction has rejected UNTAC's election and the 20 political parties. This undertaking constituted a grave violation of the Paris agreement. Akashi added in his warning that in acting in this manner, the Khmer Rouge faction risked being stripped of the legitimacy it gained in signing the agreement and has taken a dangerous step toward outlaw status and isolation from the national and international communities. The Khmer Rouge should make their choice with care. Because they signed the Paris agreement, they must be held fully responsible.

Akashi also informed the meeting that UNTAC will discuss with the Phnom Penh authorities measures to protect the coming election. He praised the Phnom Penh authorities for their great efforts to eliminate violence.

Concerning the election campaign, Akashi called on everyone not to tear off pamphlets pasted in various public places.

His excellency the Russian ambassador, representing the big five countries and various embassies in Phnom Penh, made a statement expressing concern over the recently increasing violent acts with political and racial motivation against innocent civilians. At the same time, he strongly condemned such gross and inhumane acts.

The Russian ambassador, on behalf of representatives of the big five countries and embassies in Phnom Penh, made a special appeal calling on the Khmer Rouge to reconsider the bad consequences that might arise from their obstinate stand.

Hor Namhong proposed that the SNC issue a statement condemning the violence that harmed innocent civilians and UNTAC personnel.

Since a consensus was not reached on this matter, the prince made a statement condemning and calling for an immediate end to all violent acts. His statement was supported in writing from all other parties except the Khmer Rouge.

Khmer Rouge Leader His Excellency Khieu Samphan denied that his faction committed any violence or attacked anyone, including the killings of Vietnamese civilians in Kompong Chhnang, Cambodian residents in Kompong Thom, and UNTAC officials in Kompong Speu. Khieu Samphan also refused to accept responsibility for a recent incident in Kompong Thom in which UNTAC had sufficient proof and witnesses, issued an arrest warrant, and demanded that Khieu Samphan hand over the persons who committed the crime.

Concerning the order related to the sale and transfer of public property, since no agreement was reached, Akashi decided that this order would go into effect on 15 March [month as heard] 1993.

On the inappropriate treaties signed by the local administration in the past, Akashi decided to let the new government make a decision on this matter because it related to the sovereignty of Cambodia and a chronic problem involving international law. Therefore, only the new government which emerges from the elction shall be able to make a decision.

Concerning other issues, the meeting discussed the problem of UNTAC using the dollar currency in Cambodia. UNTAC officials specializing in the financial field promised to consider this matter.

The next meeting will be held on 21 April.

Khmer Rouge Shell U.S. Soldiers in Stung Treng

BK1204073493 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0412 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh 12 Apr (SPK)—At 2030 on 3 April the Khmer Rouge rebels fired several rockets on a site of a group of U.S. soldiers engaged in a search for the remains of soldiers missing in action during the Indochina war. The site in question was located in Stung Treng Province. As a result of the attack, 50 U.S. soldiers of that group were forced to immediately return to Phnom Penh by helicopter.

At 1120 on 4 April, 50 to 60 Polpotists attacked the sectors registered under coordinates 03.09 in Kralanh District, Siem Reap Province, causing one dead and three wounded, including an UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] military personnel.

It should be recalled that the Polpotists have been attacking this district since 1 April and that they have seized a quantity of the local population's valuables, killed three villagers, and wounded several others.

6 Vietnamese Killed in Provincial Town 4 Apr

BK1104014093 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Excerpt] According to informed sources in Stung Treng Province, a group of people living near the provincial town market stabbed to death six Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese], then threw the corpses into the river in front of the provincial administrative office building on 4 April.

It was reported that the local people have repeatedly complained to UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] about the Yuon sending their citizens to settle down in the Stung Treng provincial town. At present, the Cambodian people are outnumbered by the Yuon settlers. UNTAC has not only refused to verify the Yuon withdrawal, but has also allowed more Yuon to come. Those Yuon are presently dominant in carpentry; housing construction; hairdressing; motorbike, watch, and radio repair, and so on. [passage omitted]

Radio Condmens Khmer Rouge for UN Official's Death

BK1004050493 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] According to reports from frontline battlefields, some 30-40 Khmer Rouge rebels from Division 785 attacked (Thlok Chrey) village in Thkov commune of Kan Meas District in Kompong Cham Province on 2 April. Two villagers were wounded and a police stationa nd communal office building were set on fire.

In Siem Reap Province on 4 April, a group of Khmer Rouge rebels attacked the people at Kompong Thkov communal market in Kralanh District. Three people were killed, 25 houses were set ablaze, and a great deal of materials destroyed.

At 1300 on 3 April, a group of Khmer Rouge rebels from an area in the Tonle Sap lake region opened fire on the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] mine clearing unit's residence in (Bang Kaong) village, Ampel commune, Siem Reap District. This set on fire an UNTAC office, three houses, and two dining halls. They took away 21 mine detectors and three fire extinguishers. A water pump, a generator, and a significant quantity of batteries and materials were destroyed.

At 0730 on 8 April, an UNTAC vehicle travelling from the Prasat Sambo district seat to the Kompong Thom provincial town was ambushed and sprayed with AK bullets by the Khmer Rouge in an area west of (Chik Andong) village on coordinates WV20/03, Sambo commune, Prasat Sambo District. As a result, a Japanese UNTAC election officer was killed and a Cambodian interpreter wounded.

We condemn the increasingly violent acts committed by the genocidal Khmer Rouge rebels on the Cambodian troops and people and UNTAC personnel, causing the general situation to become more tense and complicated. The Cambodian People's Armed Forces request UNTAC to take stringent actions to immediately end the gross violations perpetrated by the genocidal Khmer Rouge rebels to sabotage the Cambodian peace plan.

Khmer Rouge Said To Kill FUNCINPEC Members

BK1104025093 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Khmer Rouge elements from the 408th regiment in Division 948 and from the 705th regiment in Division 370 carried out military activities at O Muni and Anlung Vel Villages, Anlung Vel Commune, Sangke District, Battambang Province on the night of 31 March. They sprayed the two villages with machine-gun fire, killing three members of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party and wounding five other

FUNCINPEC members and an innocent villager. They also robbed 42 families of gold, money, three radios, and six bicycles; removed identity cards, voter-registration cards, and other papers from the people, and terrorized the latter.

Indonesia

Minister Reveals Plan To Improve Investment Climate

BK0904121993 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English 1 Apr 93 p 1

[Text] The government will improve investment climate to attract funds parked both at home and overseas, State Minister of Investment Promotion Sanyoto Sastrowardoyo said Wednesday after meeting President Suharto at the Bina Graha [Presidential Office] here.

"The government will ofter low-cost financing by mobilizing public funds," Sanyoto said.

Sanyoto said that the raising of public funds could be done through the utilisation of pension fund, foundations' funds, issuance of long- and medium-term bonds, and retain [as published] profit.

"Many companies do not use their retain profit, and we will motivate them to channel their funds to finance investment," Sanyoto said.

The minister said that investment climate could be improved by creating bigger income from investment than from saving in banks.

Sanyoto confirmed that there is much fund parked abroad, but he could not mention the amount of the funds and where they were invested.

"We expect to attract the funds by offering attractive incentive," said Sunyoto who is also chairman of the Capital Investment Coordinating Board.

The minister reminded the owners that they need not worry about the safety of their funds because they could reenter through deposit. "The government will not probe the deposit," Sanyoto said.

Sanyoto said that the government would not withdraw the funds forcedly, but it could be done through president's decree or government regulation. The government has even planned to work out a law to mobilize public funds for investment activities.

Sanyoto said that the government wants the owners to calculate which is profitable to put the money abroad with low interest rate (6 to 7 percent per annum) or invest at home with high incentives.

The funds would not be used by the government but for investment, and the government will act as catalyzer in investment activities.

The president suggested to the minister that he should not only mobilize funds but also prepare prospective projects.

In 1990, funds needed for domestic investment reached Rp. [rupiah] 55 trillion, in 1991 Rp. 41 trillion, and in 1993 Rp. 30 trillion. It constituted only 31 percent of the allocated investment. The remaining 69 percent could not be implemented due to the lack of funds.

Sanyoto said that investors need cheaper financing, while the banks still offer high interest rate.

Jakarta To Release Captured East Timor Leader

LD1004201793 Lisbon RTP Internacional Television in Portuguese 1800 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] RTP has heard that [captured guerrilla leader] Ma Huno is to be released. The information came from Lopes da Cruz, the Indonesian foreign minister's right-hand man on East Timorese matters. Lopes da Cruz said that Ma Huno had written a letter of surrender to the Indonesian authorities days before being captured in Dili, and for this reason it has been decided to release him.

We pass this story on with reservations. More details from our special correspondent Luis Pires on the telephone line from Jakarta:

[Pires] The news caught us by surprise. According to Francisco Lopes da Cruz, formerly an adviser to President Suharto and recently appointed minister assistant to Ali Alatas for East Timorese affairs, Manecas Ma Huno, the man appointed leader of the East Timorese guerrilla after the capture of Xanana Gusmao, is about to be released. Ma Huno is said to have written a letter of surrender to the commander in chief of the Indonesian Armed Forces a few days before being captured.

I have been unable to obtain official confirmation of this story which, as I have said, was passed on to me by Francisco Lopes da Cruz, who assured me that an official note confirming Ma Huno's release will be issued within the next few hours.

In connection with the appointment of Lopes da Cruz to the post of minister assistant to Foreign Minister Alatas on East Timorese affairs, at his swearing-in, Lopes da Cruz stated the intention to apply a new strategy in the territory involving the granting to foreign figures and journalists greater access to Timor. He also said that he will continue to strive for the reopening of the Portuguese Embassy in Jakarta, a matter which he said is currently under the UN secretary general's attention and being dealt with through diplomatic channels.

Luis Pires reporting from Jakarta for RTP.

Correction to Suharto To Install Chiefs

BK0904150893

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Suharto To Install Armed Services, Police Chiefs", published in the 5 April East Asia DAILY REPORT, pp. 28-29:

Page 28, column two, second paragraph, sentence five, make read: Air Vice Marshal Rilo Pambudi has been appointed.... clearing name;

Same paragraph, sentence seven, make read: Major General Drs. [academic title] Banurusman Atmosemitro has been appointed.... clearing name.

Laos

Delegation Leaves for India Interparliamentary Meeting

BK1104105693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, the delegation of the National Assembly, headed by Dr. Khamliang Phonsena, member of the National Assembly Standing Committee, chief of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the National Assembly, and chairman of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] Interparliamentary Committee of the LPDR, left for New Delhi, India, to attend the 89th session of the Interparliamentary Federation scheduled to be held between 12 and 17 April. Parliamentary delegations from more than 100 countries expected to attend the session will discuss various issues ranging from restrictions of arms sales, edcuation, democracy, and the current international situation.

Seeing the delegation off at the airport were Chaleun Yiapaoheu, member of the National Assembly Standing Committee, members of the National Assembly, and a number of high-ranking cadres concerned. Mr. (Duk), counsellor to the Indian Embassy in Laos, was also present at the airport to bid farewell to the delegation.

Foreign Minister Receives Malaysian, DPRK Envoys

BK1104112293 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Yesterday, Somsavat Lengsavat, foreign affairs minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], received a courtesy call from Abdul Wahap B. Harun, Malaysian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the LPDR, who extended his congratulations to him on his appointment as foreign affairs minister.

On the morning of the same day, Somsavat Lengsavat also received Chang Yong-chun, DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the LPDR, who extended New Year greetings to him on the occasion of the forthcoming traditional Lao New Year. Chang Yong-chun also handed over, through the Foreign Affairs Ministry, New Year gifts from DPRK President Kim Il-song to LPDR President Nouhak Phoumsavan and Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon. The DPRK president conveyed his best wishes for closer relations of friendship and cooperation between the LPDR and the DPRK.

Vientiane Provincial Party Concludes Congress

BK1104094693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Excerpts] The first congress of the party committee of Vientiane Province was successfully concluded at the meeting hall of Vientiane Province on the evening of 8 April after four days of work under the chairmanship of Mounkeo Olaboun, member of the Party Central Committee, secretary of the provincial party committee, and governor of Vientiane Province.

Attending the ceremony as honored guests were Maichantan Sengmani, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Party-State Control and Inspection Board; Siphon Phalikhan, member of the Party Central Committee, deputy minisrter of national defense, and chief of the Army General Political Department; and 210 representatives of more than 3,200 party members from many services, army units, and factories in all districts in the province. [passage omitted]

The congress cast ballots to elect the new executive committee for the provincial party committee, comprising 17 members—15 Lao Loum, one Lao Theung, and one Lao Soung—and elected Mounkeo Olaboun secretary of the Vientiane provincial party committee. [passage omitted]

Philippines

Adverse PRC Reaction to Spratlys Plan Expected

HK1204072593 Quezon City MALAYA in English 11 Apr 93 p 2

[Report by Carlito Pablo]

[Text] Manila expects Beijing to react adversely to a government plan to uitilize portions of the Kalayaan islands in the Spratlys as a tourist spot, a ranking foreign affairs official said over the weekend.

The official said Beijing is expected to issue veiled statements reminding other claimant-countries to the potentially oil-rich Spratlys that the area which it calls Nansha islands is wholly owned by China.

For its part, Manila is set to lead other claimants in the Asean region in seeking a reaffirmation of United States support to the so-called Manila Declaration of 1992.

The Declaration calls for restraint among claimant-countries in resolving the Spratlys dispute.

ASEAN diplomats believe that a strong U.S. endorsement of the declaration could discourage Chinese muscle-flexing in the Spratlys.

"They did that to Malaysia when they started to operate a diving spot in portions of the Spratlys which they claim," the official said.

So far, there has not been any reported Chinese incursions in the Layanglayang area where Malaysia has designated a diving spot two years ago.

China along with Vietnam and Taiwan claim the whole Spratlys, while portions are being claimed by the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei.

The official said, however, the Philippine plan to convert two islands in the Kalayaan group into a diving spot will not affect Manila's hosting of a workshop on joint marine research next month.

Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo earlier visited Beijing and was assured of Chinese participation in the workshop. President Ramos is set to go on a state visit to China at the end of the month.

Romulo has announced that a team from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources is set to map out this month portions of the Kalayaan suitable for diving. China has officially agreed to set aside the issue of sovereignty over the Spratlys to pave the way for joint activities in the area.

Muslim Separatist Rebels 'Getting Ready for War'

HK1004034093 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0000 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Muslim separatist rebels are reportedly getting ready for war in Jolo, Sulu. The rebels blamed the government for falling short of its peace offer. The Moro National Liberation Front said the separatist rebels are now better trained and armed to face government troops.

The rebels added the government's peace talks with rebel soldiers have started, but negotiations with Muslims and communists have failed due to the issue of where to hold the talks.

Official Details 'Setbacks' Facing Mindanao NPA

HK1204070393 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 11 Apr 93 p 12

[Text] A top Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) official in Western Mindanao revealed yesterday the many setbacks confronting the communist New People's Army (NPA) as a result of the success of the military's "Oplan Lambat-Bitag" [Net Trap] in the region. Lt. Col. Benjamin Arce, head of the AFP Civil Relations Group for Western Mindanao (CRC-WM), said the triumph of "Bitag" has resulted in the NPA's loss of personnel, guns, territory, mass base, and resources.

He told Brig. Gen. Romeo A. Padiernos, commanding general of the AFP Civil Relations Service (CRS) at Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City, that the rebel group is avoiding government forces "until they develop new strategy and tactics to effectively counter Bitag." Arce quoted an intelligence report as saying "the NPA fieldmen have been directed to avoid armed clashes after their heavy losses with government troops."

The CRG-WM official told Padiernos that only three encounters took place during the first quarter of the year. Arce said that the NPA will intensify its "progressive tax" collection among business firms and local traders as part of its effort to strengthen their weakening organization. Rebel documents obtained by the military said there are only 464 full-time NPA rebels in Western Mindanao with 340 guns distributed to five NPA combat groups.

AFP Discounts MNLF War Threat

HK1204070993 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 11 Apr 93 p 1

[Text] The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) belittled yesterday threats of the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) to stage a new war against the government because of its alleged insincerity in its peace proposals with the Muslim rebels. Col. Benjamin Enrile, AFP information officer, said that the AFP will not hesitate to use its full might against the rebels should they engage in terroristic activities, particularly in the Sulu area.

The MNLF, through its deputy secretary general for military affairs, Abou Amri Taddik, had issued a statement threatening to wage war against the government because of its "insincere offers of peace for the Muslim rebels."

Meanwhile, an Army battalion stationed in Sulu was ordered pulled out by Gen. Lisandro Abadia, AFP chief of staff, after it had completed its peace-keeping mission during the recent elections in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao [ARMM]. Aside from Sulu, the ARMM is composed of Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, and Tawi-Tawi.

Military records show that the MNLF has some 15,600 members with 9,720 firearms but is suffering from a leadership crisis because of the absence of the movement's chairman Nur Misuari from the country. Misuari is now living in exile in Libya. AFP intelligence reports, however, said that some MNLF groups were consolidating their movements in the areas of Basilan and Sulu.

Taddik also said that the MNLF will conduct offensive operations in retaliation for the continued AFP drive against a band of Muslim rebels who were implicated in the massacre of 21 Marine soldiers and four militiamen three months ago. "The practice of Muslims is to wait," Taddik was quoted as telling newsmen in Jolo. "Once the enemy attacks, then it is the time to retaliate. And since the military has started attacking our troops in Basilan. I think we are also entitled to attack them.

Marine troopers are conducting pursuit operations in the area against Muslim rebels who abducted Fr. [Father] Bernard Blanco, a Spanish Catholic priest, last March 18. The military said that the kidnappers, who are demanding P3 million [Philippine pesos] for the release of the priest, belong the lost command of Muslim rebel groups.

MNLF leaders claim to have better equipped armed followers who were trained in combat fighting in foreign countries like Libya, Afghanistan, and Syria. In its December, 1992, firearms data report, the Philippine National Police (PNP) reported that some 26,400 firearms were landed in the ARMM region.

Col. Enrile said that the 61st Infantry Battalion, which was temporarily stationed in Sulu for the ARMM elections, has started pulling out of the area and returning to its mother unit in Negros Occidental on board C-130 military cargo plan. Several armored vehicles, Navy gunboats and Air Force helicopter gunships are still stationed in the ARMM region and awaiting their return to their mother units. Enrile said that the Philippine Army has better capability of fast deployment in MNLF dominated areas because it is maintaining two infantry divisions based in Dinaig, Maguindanao, and Labangan, Zamboanga del Sur.

Places Mindanao Units on Alert

HK1204053693 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Apr 93 p 12

[Text] The Southern Command (Southcom) of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has placed all its field units in Mindanao, particularly in the Zamboanga Peninsula, Sulu, Lanao and Cotabato on "standby alert" following threats of the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) to carry out a terroristic plan called "April Surprise".

Sources at Southcom said that the 3rd Air Division of the Philippine Air Force (PAF), Philippine Navy, Philippine Marines, artillery and armored brigades and the Philippine National Police (PNP) have been ordered to be on "standby alert" and prepare for any call from Southcom which is stationed at Calarian, Zamboanga. "We will use our full force against secessionist groups or even the communist bands should they start terroristic activities, particularly in the Muslim or communist-controlled areas," a top Southcom official said.

Last Thursday [8 April], Muslim separatist rebels on Sulu island under Abou Amri Taddik, alleged MNLF deputy secretary general for military affairs, threatened to stage war starting this month in the face of what they say are "insincere offers of peace by the government." "We are preparing for war," Taddik said in an interview last Thursday in an MNLF camp in Sulu.

Southcom records show that the MNLF has some 15,600 regulars with 9,720 assault firearms. Another Southcom intelligence report stated that since last year, some MNLF groups have been consolidating their forces in South Cotabato, Bukidnon, Lanao, Sulu and Basilan. Another landing of firearms was reported last year in Caromatan, Lanao del Sur.

"The AFP, PNP and other support units are ready for an alleged MNLF drive," said an Army intelligence officer based in Southcom. He added: "War these days is different from the war in the early 70s; now they are not a threat and they cannot conduct an offensive against our forces." Military records show that the MNLF forces at present are suffering from a leadership crisis because of the absence of the movement's chairman, Nur Misuari, who is now living in exile in Libys, the intelligence officer said.

In short, he said, there is no way for the MNLF to win the war because the Philippine Army (PA) has better capability of fast deployment in MNLF-dominated areas. He added that the Army is maintaining two infantry divisions, several armored vehicles, Navy gunboats and modern Air Force helicopter gunships in these areas.

Ramos Warns Against Violence in Mindanao

HK1204113093 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0624 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Weekly news conference held by President Fidel Ramos at Malacanang; in English]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] It has come to my attention that certain armed elements in Muslim Mindanao are planning to stage a series of acts of violence under a plan called April Surprise before the meeting of the Organization of Islamic Conference, or OIC, in Karachi, Pakistan. Reports have also reached my office that some defeated candidates and their followers and supporters, in an effort to discredit the last ARMM [Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao] elections and the government, and in order to take advantage of the anticipated violence and chaos to be sowed by terrorists allegedly, that they have organized a terrorist group to create disorder in Cotabato City and other population centers in Maguindanao and its neighboring provinces [as heard].

It is clear that the timing of the plans of these troublesome groups under the so-called April offensive is calculated to attract the attention and, hopefully, their recognition by the OIC. It's likewise clear that these groups are desperate enough to ride on this reported offensive, these groups meaning the defeated candidates and followers, to perpetrate their political ambitions and subvert the will of the people expressed through the ARMM elections.

Let me issue sufficient and fair warning to all those who may entertain false beliefs that they can cow this government through acts of terrorism, intimidation and violence: The full force of the law will be brought to bear upon all those who choose to violate the right to peace and security of all our law-abiding Muslim countrymen as well as all other citizens, and we, the government, are prepared to meet head-on any acts of defiance.

I call on the people of Muslim Mindanao not to be misled, neither intimidated, by the handiwork of bandits and terrorists. And I also call upon you, the leaders of ARMM, to exert your moral influence in dissuading these elements from carrying out their nefarious plans.

I reiterate the pledge of this administration to push and work for a truly progressive and peaceful Muslim Mindanao. I ask the MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front], MILF [Moro Islamic Liberation Front] and the people of Mindanao to work hand in hand with the government under our National Unification Program and to help fulfill the potential of Mindanao as a peaceful area of development and justice.

That is my statement in relation to the many threats that have been published so far under a so-called plan for an April Surprise. I will now turn this over to my associate editor. [as heard]

[Reporter] Happy Easter, Mr. President. How does the intelligence of the Armed Forces view the threat of the MNLF? Is there any target date of this so-called April surprise?

[Ramos] Well, the target date is April [laughs]. The AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] has certain views on this, already expressed by the chief of staff. I am expressing now the commander-in-chief's views on the matter.

[Reporter] I understand, sir, that there are some movements by the AFP in Mindanao, pulling out some battalions. What can you say about this, sir?

[Ramos] Well, I think these are normal deployments. But in the statement of General [Lisandro] Abadia [AFP chief], and here I am explaining the statement of a subordinate, which should not be, he said that is proof of the fact that by pulling out a battalion from Sulu, that the AFP is not overly worried about the situation in Sulu, where there is found the bulk of the MNLF, just across the boundary of Jolo town in the so-called Timbangan checkpoint. So I think you better check out that statement because it is a very valid statement. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Now that you issued a warning to terrorist groups in Mindanao, what's your next move after your ultimatum ends on the abductors of the Spanish priest, Father Blanco? What will your government do now after the ultimatum has lapsed?

[Ramos] That is a different situation than [what] I described here because this is the so-called April surprise. The one in Basilan is not an April surprise; it is a March kidnaping [laughs]. We are leaving it up to the law enforcement side because we see this as a law enforcement operation, supported by elements of the military, under the peace and order council system which is chaired by Secretary [Rafael] Alunan of DILG [Department of Interior and Local Government], to first safely recover Father Blanco, plus the (Biel) members [as heard] who are still in the custody of the kidnapers.

These are two different situations, but they have all been lumped up in the same recovery operation. The main effort there is still negotiation. But there is military support as well as police operations around: First, to protect the innocent civilians in the vicinity; No. 2, to limit the damage in terms of burned houses and barangay centers that are being hit by the terrorists; and thirdly, to mobilize the community to help in the effort of maintaining peace and order. Now, for this purpose, I have issued a presidential order declaring the entire Basilan Province as a calamity area, so that we can release funds to help the displaced persons and to make temporary repairs and restoration of public utilities such as public markets. So please look at it as a peace effort. [passage omitted]

MNLF Exchanges Mortar Fire With Army Troops

HK1204084393 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] [Anchorman Rene Santa Cruz] We have just received a report from XL25 [station code for correspondent], Joe Capadocia, who said there was an exchange of mortar fire between the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] and the military in Basilan. For details, here is Joe Capadocia:

[Capadocia] Roger, Rene. It seems the MNLF's extremist forces have made good their threat to launch new offensives against the government because, according to field reports received by the Operations Center of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] at Camp Aguinaldo, the situation in Mindanao is getting more tense, particularly in Basilan province when a clash erupted between the so-called MNLF's Mujaheedin and government troops last Black Saturday [10 April]. According to reports received by the AFP Joint Operations Center here in Camp Aguinaldo, the two sides exchanged mortar fire.

A total of 41 mortar shells were lobbed by the military at the MNLF positions, while 33 came from the MNLF group, for a total of 74 mortar rounds being fired.

The MNLF group started the clash when it fired eight 81-mm mortars to the command post of the Alpha Company of the 8th Infantry Battalion in Capatagan, Isabela town, in five- to 10-minute intervals from Upper Capayawan, also in Isabela. After several hours, the MNLF group fired eight more rounds of mortar fire at the same command post, hitting within 300 meters from the perimeter fence.

The Army troops returned fire, shooting four rounds of 81-mm mortar and 12 rounds of 60-mm mortar. The MNLF group replied with 17 rounds of 81-mm mortar in 30 minutes, and hit the perimeter fence.

Since the MNLF mortar fire was getting closer, the Army troops sent 15 rounds directly into the armed force of the MNLF forces.

According to initial reports, two were injured on the side of the Mujaheedin, and it was not determined whether some were killed. The reports also said the military mortar fire hit the MNLF outpost that was firing the mortar.

It can be recalled that Bangsa Moro groups warned they would sow violence in Mindanao because of government insincerity in addressing the separatist problem in Mindanao.

The MNLF rebels also did not recognize the last elections last month for the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao. But last Saturday, the AFP, through spokesman Colonel Ben Rille, dismissed the MNLF threat and cited the fact that the Army even pulled out a battlion from Jolo, Sulu. But while Colonel Rille was speaking, this clash erupted in the island of Basilan with mortar being fired.

[Santa Cruz] In other words, Joe Cap, what you mean is that war has broken out between the MNLF and government forces.

[Capadocia] Yes, and not only automatic firearms are involved.

[Santa Cruz] Mortar is already involved, so I called it a war.

[Capadocia] Correct, Rene. Imagine, 74 mortar rounds were fired by both sides and according to Camp Aguinaldo officials, that is the heaviest, in terms of armaments used, in recent years in Mindanao. And that is being taken as MNLF extremist forces making good their threat, that of launching the April Surprise against the government. If you remember, at Malacanang, President Ramos issued a warning and alerted government forces against the extremist forces of Bangsa Moro Army in islands in Mindanao. We will continue monitoring the developments here at the Operations Center of Camp Aguinaldo and the Army Operations Center in Camp Bonifacio.

Thailand

Minister Reacts to U.S. Trade Retaliation Plan

BK0904132793 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Thailand has been included among the (?44) countries facing immediate U.S. trade retaliation. Today, the Commerce Ministry appeals to the United States for a prudent review. Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon issued a statement regarding the U.S. announcement, saying several legal measures carried out by the Thai Government, such as the use of seven relevant laws, the issuance of specific regulations by the Prime Minister's Office, and the establishment of a court to rule on intellectual property rights and international trade cases, show clearly that the government is sincere in protecting copyrights. The Commerce Minister appeals to the United States to review four facts when making a decision which will impact on trade between the two countries. They are: first, excessive copyright fees; second, a review of the losses to be suffered by the 10 biggest U.S. importers of products which do not violate copyrights; third, copyright holders who bought U.S. copyrights are not acting in any way to support the Thai Government in the copyright issue; and fourth, Thailand is a democratic country which must solve problems in accordance with the democratic system.

Chuan Seeks 'Complete' End to IPR Violations

BK1004111193 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 10 Apr 93 p 15

[Text] According to THAI RAT's correspondent, in order to prevent the United States from announcing a trade retaliation against Thailand in April, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai has instructed the police chief and the Commerce Ministry's permanent secretary to take action to suppress intellectual property rights [IPR] violations, especially piracy of movies, video tapes, and music cassettes. He wants a complete crackdown on major producers with influential backup from politicians.

A request has also been made to the military to arrange for facilities to destroy hundreds of thousands of video tapes and music cassettes that are confiscated. In order to achieve a full result, authorities concerned have been told that the present government will not tolerate influences and that the campaign is meant to completely and permanently eliminate the problem of copyright piracy in order to bring Thailand out of a position of disadvantage in talks with the United States. According to our reporter, the government has been working hard over the past two weeks to achieve a better atmosphere for U.S.-Thai relations. It has even promised the United States a 100-percent crackdown on piracy.

Highly placed sources reported that the United States two weeks ago announced that Thailand remained on the priority foreign country watchlist subjected to U.S. trade retaliation. But, with a promise from the Thai Government to improve the situation, the United States has delayed the announcement on trade retaliation, pending the outcome of moves taken by the Thai Government. Meanwhile, Thailand has prepared measures in case its sincerity is overlooked by the U.S. Government. For example, should the United States announce a cut in tariff privileges under the Generalised System of Preferences, or introduce Section 301 to penalise Thailand despite the fact that Thailand has done everything to solve the problem, Thailand will boycott all forms of U.S. investment in Thailand—to begin with a "slowdown" [preceeding word in English], and a negative response to the AIA company's request to open a branch office here.

Our correspondent says that there are as many as 10 steps planned in Thailand's measure of retaliation. According to the Thai Government, it has been in office for only a short period, and therefore, it is unfair to judge its performance based on problems that have accumulated over eight years. The government wants to stress to the United States its sincerity to solve the problem on a permanent basis. From its survey, the government claimed that there are no more pirated video tapes or music cassettes sold by retailers at major shoppping complexes in Bangkok.

Official: U.S. Action Will Not Start 'Trade War'

BK1004150993 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan said efforts had been made to achieve an understanding between Thailand and the United States in order to prevent the U.S. from cutting privileges Thailand enjoys under the Generalised System of Preferences.

The deputy prime minister said Thailand is one of the 44 countries facing U.S. trade retaliation. Thailand has been exempted from retaliation under President Ronald Reagan and President George Bush. This time, the issue will be considered by new President Bill Clinton. He said Thailand must demonstrate its sincerity in solving the problem. A committee has been set up to this effect.

[Begin Amnuai recording in progress] ...the Thai private sector. And I believe this committee has been set up with the purpose of pooling efforts to seriously solve the problem. [end recording]

The deputy prime minister said the measure likely to be adopted by the United States against Thailand is an increase in customs duties which will affect Thai exports. But he does not think it will be a trade war.

[Begin Amnuai recording in progress] ...but I do not mean the United States will close its market something like a trade war. The United States may claim that we have caused certain losses to it, and, therefore, it will have to collect import duties from us to make up for the losses. [end recording]

Ministry Issues Statement on IPR Policy

BK1004022093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Apr 93 p B1

[By Atchara Phonwuttitham]

[Text] Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon has declared that no previous Thai government has tackled copyright violations as seriously as the current administration is doing at the moment.

In a prepared statement to be presented to Cabinet in the near future, Uthai says that the Chuan Administration has used four laws: the Copyrights Act, the Price Fixing and Anti-Monopoly Act, the Import and Export Control Act and the Revolutionary Council announcement No 285, to try to stamp out copyright violations.

The government has also instructed five government organizations: the Prime Minister's Office, the Interior Ministry, the Justice Ministry, the Attorney General's Office and the Commerce Ministry, to join forces to eliminate the malpractice.

On April 16, Uthai is expected to update Cabinet on the US threat to penalise Thai exports to America through US Section 301.

Earlier this month, Washington listed Thailand as one of the 44 countries on its National Trade Estimate (watch list), which stand accused of using unfair trade practices harmful to US industries.

However, a source said that Uthai would also suggest that Cabinet looks into the real effects caused by the ongoing dispute over the intellectual property issue.

In his report, Uthai suggests that the tape and video copyright licence fee, which is quite high at present, be reduced.

In addition, he claims that it would be unfair of the United States to retaliate against the top-ten most active Thai exports, which have done nothing to harm US products. "Those exporters do not violate US copyrights but will probably receive unfair treatment," the report says.

Uthai also asks, what have the local representatives of the copyright holders done to support the government's policy of eliminating tape pirating in Thailand?

And finally, the Commerce Minister points out that whatever the government does to resolve the situation, it will be in line with Thailand's democratic system and be for the benefit of the majority.

U.S. Firm Urges Cooperation To Settle IPR Issue

BK1004023893 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Apr 93 p 13

[Excerpt] Giant US-based sports shoe maker, Nike, has called for its Thai partners' cooperation to push for the resolution of the intellectual property rights [IPR] protection problem in Thailand.

The multinational company sent an urgent letter to its local licensee, Bangkok Rubber, through Nike Thailand manager Jerry Karver, asking it to take action on the problem. Bangkok Rubber sent a copy of the letter to Commerce Ministry Deputy Permanent Secretary Pracha Charutrakunchai, suggesting that political parties in the coalition Government should be informed about how serious the problem is.

The letter says the dispute over copyright piracy usually focuses only on audio and video tapes in Thailand, but retaliation would involve many other businesses.

"The retaliation list will be issued for Thailand on April 30. The list is now known to have footwear and garments as well as gems and jewellery as the most-favoured products for 100 percent duty penalties," Mr Karver said in the letter.

This meant the cost of Thai products exported to the US would be doubled.

The letter said Nike's representative in Washington, Grant Hanson would work on the issue and possibly lobby to protect the footwear industry from retaliatory measures.

"We need to take action in Thailand to support a resolution of the problem. I am sure that there are several complicating factors known clearly to the two governments. However, we can certainly contact many parties in the government to persuade them to aggressively pursue a resolution," the letter suggested.

It said the retaliatory duty levels of 100 percent would have a drastic impact on Nike's operations in Thailand and both sides should persuade the two governments to resolve the trade issue.

Thailand's exports of shoes, garments and gems and jewellery are worth a combined 250,000 million baht per year. [passage omitted]

Authorities 'Trying Their Best' Against Piracy

BK1104021693 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 11 Apr 93 p 3

[Text] Hua Hin—Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan yesterday urged the authorities to step up law enforcement against pirates of audio and video cassettes to preserve Thailand's privileges under the United States' Generalised Systems of Preferences (GSP).

He said it was unnecessary to amend the law to punish Thais who still engage in the illegal copying and sale of tapes. Law enforcement authorities should launch more raids against them, he added.

"Officers have yet to take action against the main manufacturers. They have only arrested small dealers or vendors," he noted.

Thailand cannot tell the US when the piracy will be eliminated, he said, but "the authorities are trying their best."

The Interior Ministry is aware of the problem and is urging the Police Department to take drastic action against operators, he said.

Negotiations to eliminate pirated tapes in Thailand have been going on for six years, he said, and the recent change of US presidents has required Thai negotiators to deal with new counterparts.

No country wants to hurt the economy of another, he said. Countries should treat each other fairly, like Thailand is doing, he claimed.

U.S. Proposes Panel To Monitor IPR Violations

BK1204102993 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 12 Apr 93 p 4

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan disclosed that the U.S. ambassador and private sector have proposed setting up a tripartite panel to crack down on copyright violations. He said the panel would comprise representatives from the United States, the Thai Government, and the Thai private sector. Amnuai said the Thai Government wants to deal with the problem seriously since it involves the national interest.

Concerning foreign trade, Amnuai said Thailand will try to diversify its export markets instead of sticking to particular markets only. Anyway, Thailand will not abandon its traditional markets, especially the United States. Amnuai said he did not think the United States would close its market and wage a trade war with Thailand. The United States might retaliate against Thailand by raising import duties to make up for the losses it has suffered from copyright violations. The United States has already applied this measure with the European Community—by raising import duties on French white wine, for example. Amnuai said he does not think anybody wants to hurt others through economic measures.

Amnuai said it is still to be seen whether the United States will cut privileges given Thailand under the Generalised System of Preferences. He hopes the United States will take into account the various policies adopted by the Thai Government, especially the priority given to suppression of copyright violations.

UN's Butrus-Ghali Returns to Thailand From Cambodia

Prasong Views UN Chief's Cambodia Trip

BK0904142793 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Excerpt] UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali, who visited Cambodia for two days, returned to Thailand yesterday to begin an official visit from 8 to 11 April. Speaking with reporters after welcoming the UN secretary at the airport, Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri said the UN secretary general asserted that the general elections in Cambodia will be held on 23 May as scheduled. Prasong said the elections will be held as scheduled by the United Nations and that if violence should erupt the United Nations will solve the problem because no countries are directly involved in Cambodia.

According to Prasong, while in Cambodia the UN secretary general told the leaders of all Cambodian factions that they should exchange ideas and participate in the election in May because it could be the last chance for stability in that country. The UN official said all factions should fight with words and ideas, not guns and explosives. But the Khmer Rouge continued to refuse to participate in the election, to be held from 23 to 27 May, arguing that it has not joined the peace process because Vietnamese forces are still in Cambodia. Reginald Austin, the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia official in charge of organizing the election, said that he was not satisfied with the pre-election situation because the political climate was not neutral enough to hold the election. [passage omitted]

Chuan, Butrus-Ghali Meet

BK0904133693 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri accompanied visiting UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali to meet Prime Minister Chuan Likphai. After the meeting, Montri Danphaibun, the deputy government house spokesman, said the UN secretary general briefed the prime minister on the situation and UN efforts to restore peace in Cambodia, and thanked the Thai Government and people for supporting the United Nations in restoring peace in Cambodia. The UN official also pledged that the United Nations will try to hold the election in Cambodia as scheduled in May to avoid repercussions in the region. On the situation in Cambodia, the UN secretary general said it could become violent in the next few weeks. In particular, the assassination of a Japanese volunteer could further confuse the current situation.

According to Montri, the Thai prime minister reiterated the Thai Government policy of supporting the peace process in Cambodia by complying with UN resolutions and noted that Thailand is aware of the consequences of renewed hostility in Cambodia.

Discuss Aid for Cambodia

BK1004015093 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Apr 93 p 2

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai yesterday called on the international community to extend assistance to Cambodia beyond the elections in May.

"A problem half solved is not solved at all," the prime minister stressed in a speech delivered over lunch in honour of UN Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali.

"It is crucial that the international community should help in the national reconstruction of Cambodia. The Cambodians must be helped to survive," he said.

"Elections in May might be seen as the cure to all ills, I regret to say that they are not," he added.

He pointed out that poverty is still rampant in Cambodia. He said the eradication of poverty at the grassroots would help bring about the return to democratic values.

"It is the substance and not the form that matters to those who have lived through years of deprivation," he noted.

"Please help them eliminate the nightmare and give them reasons to look for a better future," he added.

The prime minister, at the same time commended the UN secretary-general's visit as "timely." It "genuinely shows strong resolve and commitment of the UN to bring about the comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem," he said. [passage omitted]

In a related development, National Security Council Secretary-General Charan Kullawanit stressed that it would be up to UN agencies to ensure peace and order in Cambodia.

He noted that the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) had been in the country for more than a year and had used up considerable funds.

Meanwhile, Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, who met Mr Butrus-Ghali on Thursday night, told a press conference the UN secretary-general confirmed to him that the United Nations will go ahead with elections despite his concern over death of peacekeepers.

Mr Rao said he had confidence in the determination of the UN secretary-general to restore peace in Cambodia and India hoped that peace will take place in the country.

India is one of the 19 signatories of the Paris peace accord signed in 1991.

UN Chief Seeks Help

BK1004014093 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Apr 93 pp 1, 3

[Text] United Nations Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali yesterday called on Thailand to help persuade the Khmer Rouge [KR] to join the election process so as to put an end to violence in Cambodia.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek said the UN chief urged Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri to help stop Thai traders from doing business with the Khmer Rouge because they were giving the guerrillas means to buy weapons to kill.

Mr Butrus-Ghali made the point during pre-dinner talks with Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong last night.

At a separate press conference earlier yesterday, Mr Butrus-Ghali stressed the need to keep alive a dialogue with the Khmer Rouge even though they had so far refused to join the elections.

The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) has set May 23-28 for the first multiparty elections in Cambodia since 1972.

The UN chief cited the killing of a Japanese civilian volunteer on Thursday as well as other UN peacekeepers in the past week, the spokesman said.

He stressed that the political violence in Cambodia would not only affect UN peacekeeping in that country but throughout the world.

The security problems would discourage member states from sending volunteers to help UN peacekeeping efforts, he added.

Thai traders have defied UN-endorsed bans on exports from Cambodia of logs and gems, the Khmer Rouge's main sources of income, observers noted.

The UN chief called for Thai assistance in enforcing the ban on gems from Cambodia in particular because it is difficult to detect.

Sqn Ldr Prasong said he would try to enforce the bans but stressed that Thailand had a long border with Cambodia.

He asked the UN to provide data about Thai companies still doing business with the Khmer Rouge so that Thailand could help stop the illegal trading.

At a press conference shortly after the opening of the new UN conference centre, Mr Butrus-Ghali said UN peacekeepers in Cambodia were being redeployed in order to protect non-governmental organisations [NGOs], observers attached to the NGOs as well as UN personnel supervising the elections.

To this end, UN peacekeepers would be deployed to the headquarters of political parties contesting the elections as well as those of NGOs active in the country, he added.

The UN peacekeepers would take the "maximum of measures" to provide protection from "aggression" expected in the run-up to and during the elections.

But he stressed that they were peacekeepers, not peace enforcers.

Mr Butrus-Ghali maintained that the elections must go on in Cambodia.

He said Prince Norodom Sihanouk expressed support for the elections as did leaders of other main Cambodian factions.

He said the Khmer Rouge's refusal to join the elections so far would not obstruct the polls as the guerrillas represented only 5-6 per cent of Cambodia's population.

But he said a dialogue must be maintained with the Khmer Rouge.

The UN chief confirmed that UNTAC's mission was scheduled to end in August following the installation of an elected government.

He said the UN would be prepared to consider help thereafter but only on request from the elected government.

He said the consideration would extend to a request for a "minimum" military presence.

Mr Butrus-Ghali made the point in response to Prime Minister Chuan Likphai's lunchtime call for the international community to provide longterm help to Cambodia.

He pointed out that the work undertaken by UNTAC over the past year was already geared to Cambodia's national reconstruction.

He cited the repatriation of more than 300,000 refugees and the construction and repair of roads, schools and bridges.

Butrus-Ghali To Seek SRV Advice

BK1104021293 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 11 Apr 93 p 2

[Excerpts] United Nations Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali will seek Hanoi's advice on how to bolster the peace process in Cambodia when he begins a two-day visit to Vietnam today.

Like Thailand, Vietnam is a neighbour of Cambodia and, as such, plays an important role in the future of the country, Mr Butrus-Ghali told a press conference here on Friday.

The advice of Bangkok is sought on ways of promoting peace in Cambodia and "I will also ask the government of Hanoi what ought to be done to reinforce peace in Cambodia," he said. [passage omitted]

The UN chief made the remarks to reporters shortly before asking Thailand to persuade the Khmer Rouge to join the election process by enforcing sanctions against imports of logs and gems, which are the group's main sources of income. [passage omitted covered]

The UN secretary-general, who was in Phnom Penh on Wednesday and Thursday, is scheduled to leave for Hanoi at about midday today, at the end of a four-day official visit to Thailand. He stops over in Bangkok tomorrow evening on his way from Vietnam. [passage omitted]

Speaking to reporters after attending the inauguration on Friday afternoon of the UN's new regional conference centre here, Mr Butrus-Ghali said he was visiting Vietnam on an invitation extended to him many years ago while he was still the foreign minister of Egypt.

"My purpose is to obtain a greater participation by Vietnam in the international community," he said, "and to contribute to the democratisation of Vietnam and the liberalisation of the economy."

Both are matters to be decided by the government of Vietnam, he noted. "But as secretary-general of the United Nations, I can give my advice and my presence may encourage them," he added.

Asked about Burma, Mr Butrus-Ghali said the UN High Commissioner for Refugees is trying to solve a "technical problem" obstructing the repatriation of some 260,000 Burmese refugees now in camps in Bangladesh.

He stressed that the UN could not "impose" democratisation on Burma or any other member state.

Paper: UN Effort in Cambodia on 'Edge of Failure'

BK1204025693 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Apr 93 p 4

[Editorial: "UN must resolve Cambodia problems"]

[Text] The United Nations effort in Cambodia stands poised on the edge of failure. It still can succeed in its worthwhile goal of bringing peace and democracy to our eastern neighbour, but time is running out. Scheduled elections now are less than six weeks away. Large parts of the country remain insecure. UN workers and troops, ethnic Vietnamese residents of Cambodia and ordinary citizens have been killed in attacks reminiscent of the worst of the 1970s war in Cambodia. More ominously, it now appears likely the Khmer Rouge will directly oppose the May 23-28 polls designed as the most important step towards establishing a free country.

UN Secretary Butrus Butrus-Ghali has been touring Southeast Asia in search of some new ideas. In Bangkok and Hanoi, Mr Butrus Ghali asked for help and advice. Exactly what will come out of his trip remains to be seen. Still, the main problems facing Cambodia for the immediate future are obvious enough. He must bring the Khmer Rouge back into the Cambodian political process if possible, or prevent them from disrupting the elections and forming of a new government which will follow. His problem is the one long faced by the United Nations: the reluctance of the international body to use peacekeeping forces to act aggressively against those who break the calm.

Mr Butrus-Ghali must first make a renewed attempt to bring the Khmer Rouge back into the political mainstream. The advantages of having the guerrila group participate openly in elections and government was obvious from the start of the peace process many years ago. Simply put, if Khieu Samphan and other Khmer Rouge are fighting peacefully for the future of their country, they are serving peace and freedom. By continuing their military attacks in the Cambodian countryside, the Khmer Rouge are hurting Cambodia and its people.

The main onus is on the Khmer Rouge itself. This group, by its signature and its word, promised many times to take part in a new form of government for Cambodia—the one which springs from the ballot box, instead of the gun barrel. Clearly, the followers of Pol Pot have broken that promise. It is not too late, however, to halt the attacks and join other political groups in an attempt to put Cambodia on the road to recovery. Mr Butrus-Ghali should bring the full weight of his good offices to bear on Khmer Rouge leaders to achieve this goal.

Among options Mr Butrus-Ghali should consider is a more assertive use of the largest military force ever assembled under the UN's blue berets. Malaysia already is prepared to beef up its troop strength in Cambodia, and other countries should consider this, if necessary. The international force is capable of subduing most of the Khmer Rouge's worst excesses, and of protecting most Cambodians, Vietnamese residents and UN workers from further attack. The presence of this force should be stressed by the secretary-general in talks with Khmer Rouge leaders. Last week, the UN chief in Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, warned the Khmer Rouge they would face international condemnation if they disrupt the elections. "There should be no more sanctuaries for that party and no more chances," he said.

Perhaps the greatest danger for Cambodia itself is that the UN will run next month's elections, declare success, and leave. The current schedule for the massive Khmer operation calls for a troop pullout before the end of this year. Mr Butrus-Ghali must reconsider this. The elections are only a symbol of progress, which will be measured by formation of a responsible government, combined with security for all the population.

The best method of achieving these goals is for the Khmer Rouge to lay down its arms—as it promised—and participate in elections and the general political process. But force must not be ruled out as a possible method of making the nation safe for its citizens. Mr Butrus-Ghali should focus on convincing the Khmer Rouge to return to the mainstream and to ask for the votes of their countrymen if he can succeed at this difficult chore, then he may be able to begin planning a UN troop withdrawal. If his diplomatic attempts fail, however, the UN secretary-general may face the difficult decision of using force to back up the authority the UN has assumed in Cambodia. Leaving Cambodia at war with itself is the worst thing the United Nations could do.

Cambodian Border Trade 'Very Hard' To Stop

BK1104015493 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 11 Apr 93 p 1

[Text] It is "very hard" to stop trade across the Thai-Cambodian border, and Thai businessmen who deal with Cambodians don't care about their political allegiance, Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut claimed yesterday.

UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali asked Thailand this past week to help enforce sanctions against the Khmer Rouge to force them back into the peace process.

"The bilateral (Thai-Cambodian) relationship has a long history," Gen Chawalit said. "As long as we have good relations, it is very hard to stop people of the two countries from crossing the border to trade."

Thai businessmen no longer import logs and gems from Cambodia in line with the UN sanctions, he claimed, and those who say they haven't stopped this trade should name the guilty companies, he added. [Bangkok THE NATION in English on 11 April in a similar story adds: "Chawalit reiterated that the government has fully abided by the UN-sponsored bans on log and gem exports. 'If they are talking about a total trade ban on the Khmer ROuge, then there would be no basis or reason for further discussions,' he added."]

The ban on logs began in January and that on gems several weeks later.

Thai officers are patrolling the border to enforce the UN resolution, Gen Chawalit added.

Illegals 'Security Threat'; Crackdown Ordered

BK1104022893 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 11 Apr 93 p 1

[By Temsak Trisophon]

[Text] The Interior Ministry has been ordered by Prime Minister Chuan Likphai to launch a crackdown on illegal immigrants, who reportedly exceed 100,000 in number and pose a security threat.

An official source said a meeting on Thursday at the ministry attended by Foreign Ministry, Police Department, Corrections Department and National Security Council officials agreed to reactivate the Lat Bua Khao detention centre in Nakhon Ratchasima's Pak Chong District, formerly a detention camp for Vietnamese refugees in the Dien Bien Phu era.

The centre will be used to detain arrested illegal immigrants pending deportation, the source added.

In addition to Lat Bua Khao camp, several more detention centres will be opened in other provinces in anticipation of a large number of illegal immigrants to be rounded up by police, said the source.

According to the source, the authorities have divided illegal immigrants into two groups: Indians, Pakistanis, Sri Lankans and Nepalese who entered Thailand through Don Muang with proper visas but have stayed on illegally, and Laotians, Chinese, Burmese and Cambodians who slipped across the border illegally to take refuge in Thailand or third countries.

Apart from the major crackdown which is expected soon, the source said, the authorities would use diplomatic channels to ask foreign embassies to take back their people.

Deputy Permanent Interior Secretary for Security Chaiwat Hutacharoen warned people who help, provide accommodation for or employ illegal immigrants that they may face punishment.

Under the Immigration Act, giving assistance to illegal immigrants is punishable by a maximum five years' imprisonment and 50,000-baht fine.

Unless they have a special arrangement with the Interior Ministry, Mr Chaiwat also warned, non-governmental organisations and international organisations must refrain from helping illegal immigrants or risk punishment under the law.

Interior Ministry Foreign Affairs Division chief Prakakon Samit said the ministry would propose to the Foreign Ministry to stop issuing visas to certain nationalities at the port of entry in order to discourage illegal immigration.

The practice was introduced some years ago to promote tourism. But this has allowed some foreigners, mostly from the subcontinent, to get into the country and stay beyond their visas.

A police source, meanwhile, said the number of illegal immigrants in Thailand might now exceed 200,000, mostly mainland Chinese, Burmese, Indians, Pakistanis, Sri Lankans, Nepalese, Laotians and Cambodians.

Mainland Chinese men, said the source, usually do not intend to seek permanent refuge in Thailand, but want to resettle in third countries such as Australia or the United States. They use Thailand as a transit point to get fake passports and visas with the help of well-organised gangs to their destinations, the source added.

The source said mainland Chinese come to Thailand in a number of ways—by trekking through Burma and into Chiang Rai's Mae Sai District or Mae Hong Son Province, by sea on cargo vessels, and through Don Muang airport.

Once in Thailand, the illegal Chinese immigrants stay in houses run by smuggling rackets in Yaowarat, Phatthanakan, Si Nakharin or Samut Prakan, the source said.

Burmese provide cheap as fishing crews, construction workers and other manual jobs. In Ranong Province, thousands of them are reportedly employed as cheap labourers.

Army To Prevent Cambodians' Illegal Entry

BK1204060293 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] The Armed Forces are ready to prevent Cambodians from illegally entering into Thailand again. Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Woranat Aphichari says the Army has prepared forces to be responsible along the Thai-Cambodian border after all displaced Cambodians have been repatriated by the end of this month. He says that displaced persons have long been a heavy burden for Thailand and the Armed Forces will help preventing such a problem to happen again.

Air Chief Marshal Woranat says if fighting occurs again in Cambodia, Thailand might be affected, especially with the foreseeable fleeing of the Cambodians from their homeland yet again. However, he says that Thailand places great importance on humanitarianism. The United Nations is confident that general elections will be held in Cambodia in May and the United Nations will retain its peacekeeping forces in that country until there is a permanent government.

Indian Premier Rao Continues Visit

Meets Businessmen

BK0904120193 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] At the Oriental Hotel, Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao met with several Thai businessmen, such as Thai Board of Trade President Suwit Wangli, and Phisit Phakkasem, the secretary general of the National Economic and Social Development Board, to discuss economic cooperation between Thailand and India. The Indian prime minister said that although Thailand and India have been friends for a long time they have little trade cooperation. In any event, a group of Indian businessmen have been successful in their industrial investment in Thailand. He hopes that this group of Indian businessmen will be able to persuade their Thai counterparts to invest in India. It is up to Thai investors to decide which fields of investment they prefer. As far as Indian and Thai leaders are concerned, they feel that cooperation between their countries could increase.

The Indian prime minister also asserted that he will try to amend the regulations and tax systems that currently obstruct investment to meet the wishes of Thai investors, especially in fishery, for which India has huge marine animal resources. India will ask Thailand to give technical assistance in fishery and encourage the Thai private sector to increase investment in this field.

This morning, the Indian prime minister called on Sanya Thammasak, the privy councilor president, and Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, a privy councilor in the palace. At about 1200 the Indian prime minister left by air for Chiang Mai Province to visit the Huai Hongkhlai Development Center. He will leave for India tomorrow at 0900.

Speaks on Cooperation Potential

BK1004021093 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Apr 93 p 3

[Excerpts] Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao expressed confidence yesterday that Thailand and India have a "great potential" for future cooperation.

"I can say with my confidence great potentials inherited in our relations can be realised in various areas," he summed up his visit at a press conference yesterday morning.

Mr Rao ends his four-day official visit today. He is due to leave for Bangladesh to attend a meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC).

The Indian leader said both countries which are close in cultural relations are keen to strengthen relations in economy, trade and other sectors.

Thai investors are enthusiastic about investment in India, he said, adding tht India's new economic policy to open more opportunities for the private sector, combined with Thailand's economic growth, will strengthen economic relations in the future.

Mr Rao met with Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and leading businessmen during his visit to Thailand, which was seen as an attempt to boost relations between the two countries. [passage omitted]

Mr Rao said Thailand and India agreed to co-ordinate in "a number of programmes" on a one-year basis which are subjected to review for expansion. The programmes include agriculture, agro-business and culture, he added.

To strengthen the relations, India proposed to help transfer technology in fibre-optic, electronics, computer hardware and software to Thailand, as well as future cooperation in nuclear technology for peace, the joint press statement released during the press conference said.

Mr Rao and Mr Chuan also shared the view that the Non-Aligned Movement should play more role in increasing co-operation among developing countries and with industrialised nations, according to the statement.

The two countries also agreed that the participation of India as a sectoral dialogue partner with the Associaton of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) will pave the way for more co-operation between ASEAN and SAARC of which India is a member, it added.

Human rights issues and situations in Burma were also raised during the press conference.

Mr Rao said he shared the view of Thailand and other ASEAN members on human rights issues because of similarities in culture and ways of thinking.

"We don't need anyone to tell us what to do or not to do on human rights," he pointed out.

On Burma, he said the relations between India and Burma are based on mutual benefit but "India also shared concern with other countries" [on] the need to reform democracy in Burma. [passage omitted]

The Indian leader left for Chiang Mai yesterday afternoon to inspect royally-sponsored projects in the northern province.

Visit Minimizes PRC 'Threat' in Burma

BK1004031293 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Apr 93 p A6

[By Richard Valladares]

[Text] On the surface Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao's three-day visit gained nothing more than Thailand's goodwill. However, political analysts say the trip was aimed at allaying fears and exploring ways to minimize the perceived threat posed by China's growing presence in Burma.

India fears that Beijing could gain backdoor access through Burmese ports to the Indian Ocean. China's ambitions to be a two-ocean naval power were forcing Japan and other Asian nations to build closer ties, said a source.

With this background, Rao's visit gains some significance. After all, he came to Thailand outwardly seeking investment from a nation which itself is looking for investors.

In the past, the balance of trade has always been in India's favour. Besides 16 joint ventures initiated by Indians are already in operation here, while there is hardly any Thai investment in India.

Rao hinted at his concern about Chinese inroads in to Burma saying: "We are willing to discuss and take up the question of our common borders, how to keep it peaceful, how to manage certain incidents taking place there."

He added: "The phenomena of arms, etc from other countries will be disadvantageous to both our countries. All those, matters have to be taken up seriously.

"As you know our relations with Myanmar (Burma) could be considered to be correct. But, we share the concern of the international community about the need for the advent of democracy in Myanmar," said Rao.

Rao's three-day visit was billed as boosting ties with Asean in the post-Cold War era. Since the Americans left their bases in the Philippines there has been a regional power vacuum.

Japan and India are the only two nations with a navy of any strength in the region. Asean is looking to these two nations for a balance.

Diplomats say that Asian governments are concerned that an increasing Chinese influence in the Indian Ocean could destabilize the region, as India is also increasing its naval power.

China has, according to diplomats, already access to data gathered by a new radar installation on the Burmese-owned Cocos Islands in the Andaman Sea.

New Delhi is worried about future Chinese intentions and reports over the past year that Chinese technicians have been sighted at a triangle of Burmese ports—the Irrawaddy delta port of Taing Gyi, the port of Mergui on the south coast and the site of a proposed deepwater port at Thiwala, also on the delta.

Rao told reporters he supports the decision to proceed with United Nations-sponsored elections in Cambodia despite recent violence.

The Indian Prime Minister was briefed on Thursday by UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali and is convinced that attacks on UN personnel and ethnic Vietnamese settlers should not block the elections.

"Something has to be done to stop this outrage and if the election has a chance of installing a viable government, then we should go ahead," Rao said.

He also defended his country's human rights record, but said his government was willing to address the concerns of the world-wide human rights group Amnesty International.

"We don't need anyone to tell us what to do. We know what to do," he said.

The London-based organization wrote to the Indian government on Thursday asking permission to visit the country to investigate allegations of human rights abuse.

Amnesty International has not been allowed access to the country for research purposes since 1978, despite repeated requests.

In March 1992, the group reported that torture and death in police custody are "pervasive and a daily routine" in every one of India's 25 states.

Rao left yesterday for Chiang Mai, from where he will depart today for Dhaka, Bangladesh, to attend a summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, which groups Bangladesh, Bhuhn, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Interest in 'Dormant' India Ties Viewed

BK1104040893 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Apr 93 p A16

["Analysis of the Week" by M.K. Shankar: "Rao's Visit Gives New Energy to Thai-Indian Ties"]

[Text] The Indian prime minister's visit has renewed expectation of scientific and technological collaboration between Thailand and India. A similar sparking of interest in the otherwise dormant and low-key relations between the two societies sharing linguistic and cultural bonds was witnessed in the wake of Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's visit to India in 1989. Nothing much apart from a widening of trade contacts actually emerged from that.

Bilateral trade volume rose almost three-fold since that event but the goods and services exchanged remained confined to traditional entities like rice, gemstones, jute and textiles. Neither country seemed willing to share the acquisitions each had made in high technology areas.

The nature of the goods traded seems almost unchanged in their "traditional" makeup since the two countries began mercantile contact centuries ago.

As long back as the 17th century Thailand used to ship elephants to Madras, a southern Indian port, and then the base of the East India Company. While Indian merchants from there were to be found conducting trade all over the south of Thailand and Indian cloth and handiwork were in great demand as was discovered by the first colonialists who ventured into Siam.

However with this visit a step further seems to have been taken. According to the spokesman for the government of India who briefed the press after the substantial talks between officials and leaders of the two sides, three main areas have been identified for interaction—agriculture, fisheries, and science and technology.

There are also items of manufacture and investment included in the package, for example, paper and pulp. The nature and scope of interaction is to be determined hy survey teams to be jointly set up. These teams will study domains of mutual interests and make concrete recommendations to the governments of the two countries for follow-up.

There has also been a marked change of tone in the way things have been gone about. The Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao, the spokesman said, has exhorted his officials on the need to have a tight timebound schedule of one year for the implementation of whatever preliminary decisions have been taken. The progress is to be reviewed by another prime ministerial level meeting next year when the Thai prime minister is to repay the current visit.

Since the last meeting the two countries have made spectacular strides in particular areas of technology and manufacture. Thailand has established a firm footing in fisheries, both the fresh and brackish water varieties. The tiger prawn, barring one or two instances of controversy, has become a mascot of the Thai fisheries industry.

Thailand's food processing technology has also been perfected to exacting standards. The small-seed, low-fibre variety of mango is one random example of what Thai horticulture has to offer. In rice, the fragrant variety of Thailand and the Basmati of India are almost close cousins. But yield-wise the Thai variety is still at a disadvantage and joint research for a new strain that combines the better qualities of the two mihht prove of use to both sides.

Besides, Thailand has a well laden biotech shelf, with anti-Malarial vaccine, a method to determine whether a rubber plant has good yield potential at the sapling stage, and much data on the behaviour of the Aids virus and its response to vaccines are among things Thailand could very fruitfully offer India.

India, on the other hand, has made strides in materials technology, the spinoff of space research, in computer software, in satellite technology and in the development of super parallel processor computers.

India's capabilities in areas such as monsoon modelling and weather forecasting could be greatly beneficial to Thailand which shares a similar monsoon pattern. The similarity extends even to the crucial 20-day drought period between the first lap of the rainy season and the second lap which is frequently fateful for many farmers. (In fact, the head of a remote sensing project at Khon Kaen University has recommended that garmers should wait forhe end of the break before transplanting rice.)

India can share its really vast and well-trained science and technology teaching and research talent, emerging from the best institutes of the country, to assist Thailand in generating the much needed S&T research manpower for Thailand at minimal cost.

The two can share wonderful technological opportunities for economic progress, to judge from the scattered examples given here. But, quite ominously, the two areas that received overt emphasis during the talks were nuclear technology and weapons, both entities of dubious prospect.

'Tight Security' Planned for Saudi Group's Visit

BK1104035093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Apr 93 p A1

[Text] A high-ranking delegation from Saudi Arabia is scheduled to arrive in Bangkok this evening to be briefed on the progress of Thai police investigations into the Saudi murder and jewellery theft cases, sources said yesterday.

The sources at the Police Department and Interior Ministry told THE NATION the delegation will also discuss with Thai authorities Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan's plan to visit Saudi Arabia late this month.

The Saudi officials will be here on behalf of Prince Faysal, a member of the ruling Royal Family and owner of the Bt[baht]500 million jewellery stolen and smuggled back to Thailand by Kriangkrai Tetchamong in 1989, the sources said.

The sources said the Police Department was planning tight security for the 10-member Saudi delegation, which is scheduled to arrive from Riyadh this evening.

Pol Lt Gen [Police Lieutenant General] Phiphun Kunlawanit, commissioner of the Special Branch Bureau, yesterday held a meeting to discuss security arrangements.

"The delegates will be here primarily to be briefed on the progress in the Thai police investigations into the jewellery case and the murders of Saudi embassy officials," one of the sources said.

The Saudi delegation's trip here follows Thai authorities announcement of some progress in their renewed investigation of the cases.

Ari Wong-araya, the deputy interior permanent secretary who chairs a committee investigating the jewellery case, said evidence showed that more than 10 people could have been involved in the mysterious disappearance of a portion of the jewellery after retrieval by Thai police in 1990.

Kriangkrai is the only person prosecuted for the theft so far.

Interior Minister Gen Chawalit said in February that the renewed investigation into the murders of four Saudi embassy officials in 1989 and 1990 in Bangkok found evidence to suggest that they were in reprisal for the religious riots in Mecca in 1987.

The new investigation dismissed earlier claims by police that the murders were related to a labour export conflict. A senior police investigator is under probe for the disappearance of Saudi businessman Muhammad al-Ruwayli.

The investigation concluded that the businessman had been murdered after being abducted by a team of policemen shortly after the second murder case in 1990.

The Saudi charge d'affaires in Bangkok, Muhammad Sa'id Khujah, yesterday declined to comment on the visit by the Saudi delegation.

But he said the atmosphere of Thai-Saudi relations "has improved a lot".

Saudi Arabia froze its diplomatic relations with Thailand following the second murder case. It still refuses to issue new visas to Thai workers.

Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan plans to visit Saudi Arabia at the end of this month to improve the strained ties.

Surin, who is a Muslim, said he would personally brief senior Saudi authorities on the investigations during his visit to Riyadh.

The visiting Saudi delegates will discuss with Surin about his trip to Saudi Arabia, the sources said.

Saudi Prince Arrives 5 April

BK1104144993 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] Prince Muhammad Bin Nawwab Bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia arrived in Bangkok today at 1710 for a visit as guest of Interior Minister General Chawalit Yongchaiyut. He was welcomed upon arrival at Bangkok International Airport by Gen. Chawalit; Police Director General Sawat Amonwiwat; Ari Wongaraya, deputy permanent secretary of the interior; and Muhammad Sa'id Khujah, Saudi Arabian charge d'affaires in Thailand.

Police Lieutenant General Phibun Kunlawanit, chief of the Police Special Branch Division, said security will be accorded to him as a special guest of the Thai Government. Interior Minister Chawalit said the visit by the prince will improve relations between the two countries. Asked about a final report to him on the Saudi jewelry theft case, Gen. Chawalit said Ari Wongaraya, who is chairman of the committee reviewing investigations into the crimes involving Saudi Arabia, will seek a discussion with the prince.

Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Interior Ministry Ari Wongaraya, meanwhile, said that he was at the airport in his capacity to welcome the Saudi prince. The prince is scheduled to proceed from Thailand for a visit to another country. Asked whether he would report to the prince on the findings of the Saudi jewelry theft case, he said there had been no mention about the issue.

Concerned With 'Unsolved Crimes'

BK1204021693 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Apr 93 pp 1,3

[Text] Prince Muhammad bin Nawwab bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz arrived in Bangkok yesterday for talks on the unsolved crimes which have soured relations between Saudi Arabia and Thailand.

The prince was met at the airport by Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Saudi Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Sa'id Khujah, Deputy Interior Permanent Secretary Ari Wong-araya, Police Chief Sawat Amonwiwat and other senior officials.

Gen Chawalit, Mr Khujah and Mr Ari (who chairs the committee reviewing the three Saudi cases) shared a limousine with Prince Muhammad at his invitation. The party drove from the airport to the Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel.

A source said an updated investigation report was later presented to the prince. The Saudis will discuss the three cases at the charge d'affaires' residence tomorrow morning.

Metropolitan Police Commissioner Pol Lt-Gen [Police Lieutenant General] Chamlong Iamchaengphan said the prince will meet Kriangkrai Techamong, the Thai servant who stole 20 million dollars' worth of jewellery from Saudi Prince Faysal Fahd 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud's palace. Prince Muhammad is Prince Faysal's cousin, Pol Lt-Gen Chamlong said the prince will ask Kriangkrai to explain how he managed to steal the jewellery so that new arrangements can be made for security.

Gen Chawalit, however, said the prince is on a holiday visit to the country and will not be meeting Kriangkrai. The Interior Ministry took the opportunity of welcoming Prince Muhammad after learning of his scheduled stop in Thailand on his way to China, he said.

Gen Chawalit said the prince has a good grasp of the problems, wants the two countries to have a better relationship, and has praised the Interior Ministry's work.

Mr Ari said he could not yet say if the result of the investigation will be presented to the prince, because parts of the case are still pending.

Mr Khujah said he hoped the problems hampering relations between the two countries could be solved. He insisted that there are no obstacles.

The prince is scheduled to have talks over lunch with Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri this afternoon after which he will meet Mr Ari to discuss the cases. He will then attend a dinner party at the Saudi Embassy.

Prince Muhammad is scheduled to visit Government House tomorrow evening, after which he will meet senior Interior and police officials. The Interior Minister will hold a dinner reception at the hotel for the prince on Tuesday night.

The prince is scheduled to leave for Beijing on Wednesday afternoon.

Airport police station chief inspector Pol Lt-Gen Chamnan Khruabua said over 10 policemen were to guard the prince. Another 30 policemen were on the streets yesterday.

The roads were closed to all traffic to make way for the prince and about 20 policemen were sent to provide security.

Among the unsolved cases are the kidnap and murder in 1990 of Saudi businessman Mohammad al-Ruwayli, the palace jewellery theft case, and the murders of four Saudi embassy officials. A source said Saudi Arabia is not overly concerned about the missing jewellery. The main outstanding problem is the kidnapping and murder of al-Ruwayli.

Saudi Arabia ceased issuing visas to Thai workers in 1990.

Russian Bankers Offer Bank Equity for Rice Debt

BK1204030493 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Apr 93 p 13

[Text] A novel solution for the problem of Russia's rice debt to Thailand has been proposed by one of the organisers of the Russian Bank for Reconstruction and Development (RBRD).

The new bank is being established with the assistance of the World Bank and will operate as the sole channel for up to US$2.5 billion in World Bank loans for private sector development in Russia.

Mikhail Dmitriev told the Bangkok Post that several major commercial creditors holding unpaid Soviet or Russian debts are negotiating to swap these liabilities for equity in the new bank.

"Foreign private corporations are positively inclined to the idea of taking equity for their debt in the RBRD," he said.

He suggested that Thailand, which is currently owed $63 million for rice shipped in 1990-91, considers a debt-for-equity swap in the event that the Russian Government is unable to pay cash or provide the barter goods which Bangkok has proposed instead.

"We welcome contacts at any time to discuss the possibility of converting debt in this way," Dr Dmitriev said.

He is a member of parliament representing St Petersburg, and deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet's Committee for Interrepublican Relations and Regional Policy.

An economist by training, he directed a joint Soviet Government-World Bank study of reform of food production and agriculture policy in 1991.

That study led to the first World Bank loan to Russia of $600 million, this is being disbursed at present.

It also led to the proposal for the establishment of the RBRD as the channel for financing Russian business development outside the framework of central control exercised by government ministries and the Russian Central Bank.

He explained there has been opposition to the formation of the RBRD from the Central Bank.

"This is based on their preference to concentrate credit in their own hands and in their affiliated state banks."

Notwithstanding, the bank charter and regulations are expected to be approved by the Russian Government by the end of this month. A president and chief executive will be named by them also.

"Initially, we will combine both direct lending for projects, and lending through Russian banks," Dr Dmitriev said.

"The RBRD is especially necessary because of the lack of interest or incentive among the new private banks to make project loans," he said.

"The existing means of bank supervision are also inadequate to ensure that the money the World Bank is lending to the private sector will reach the actual investors."

The RBRD will work closely with the Russian Project Finance Bank—also a new banking institution, created by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in London.

The idea of debt-for-equity swaps to create a foreign investment stake in the new bank has developed alongside the Russian Government's acknowledgment that it lacks the supplies of oil metals, and other goods which creditors will accept as barter payment, instead of cash.

He added that the RBRD is hoping to negotiate between $100 million and $200 million in foreign investment in the bank through swaps this year.

The US tobacco manufacturer, Philip Morris, is one of the commercial creditors reportedly interested.

A delegation of 30 Russian bankers is expected in Bangkok later this month for a government-supported training seminar.

Chuan Receives Iranian Delegation

BK1004052893 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 10 Apr 93

[Text] Thailand and Iran have agreed to cooperate more in strengthening bilateral relations. The Thai-Iranian

Economic Joint Commission held a meeting this week during April 6 to 9 to discuss cooperation between the two countries. The meeting is the second of its kind.

Iranian minister for post and telephone, who led the Iranian delegation to the meeting, paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Chuan Likphai on Thursday to express Iran's intention to develop relations with Thailand as well as to expand diplomatic and trading cooperation with Southeast Asian countries. Iran is the only country in the Middle East that has no severe problem in the country. It is also the gateway to the Commonwealth of Independent States while Thailand is the gateway for Asean and Indochina.

Prime Minister Chuan urged Thailand and Iran to expand cooperation, especially on trade, which is still rather low.

Iran Proposes Sugar Contract

BK1004024093 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Apr 93 p 13

[Text] Iran has proposed to buy sugar from Thailand under a long-term contract Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said yesterday.

The proposal was made at the joint economic committee's second meeting between the two countries in Bangkok on April 7 and 8 to discuss ways to boost bilateral trade.

Mr Uthai, who headed the Thai delegation, said after the meeting that the details are subject to further negotiations.

He said Iran also agrees to import Thai frozen chicken products, instead of those from France.

Thailand asked Iran to buy 600,000 tons of rice more each year, while that country requested the Thai Government to buy an additional 40,000-50,000 barrels a day of crude oil.

The two countries' representatives will submit their respective proposals to their governments for further consideration.

Mr Uthai said Iran has invited Thai businessmen to invest in its free-trade zones. The potential projects are food processing, plastics, jewellry and ornaments, and textiles.